

SUPERMAN

SUPERMAN

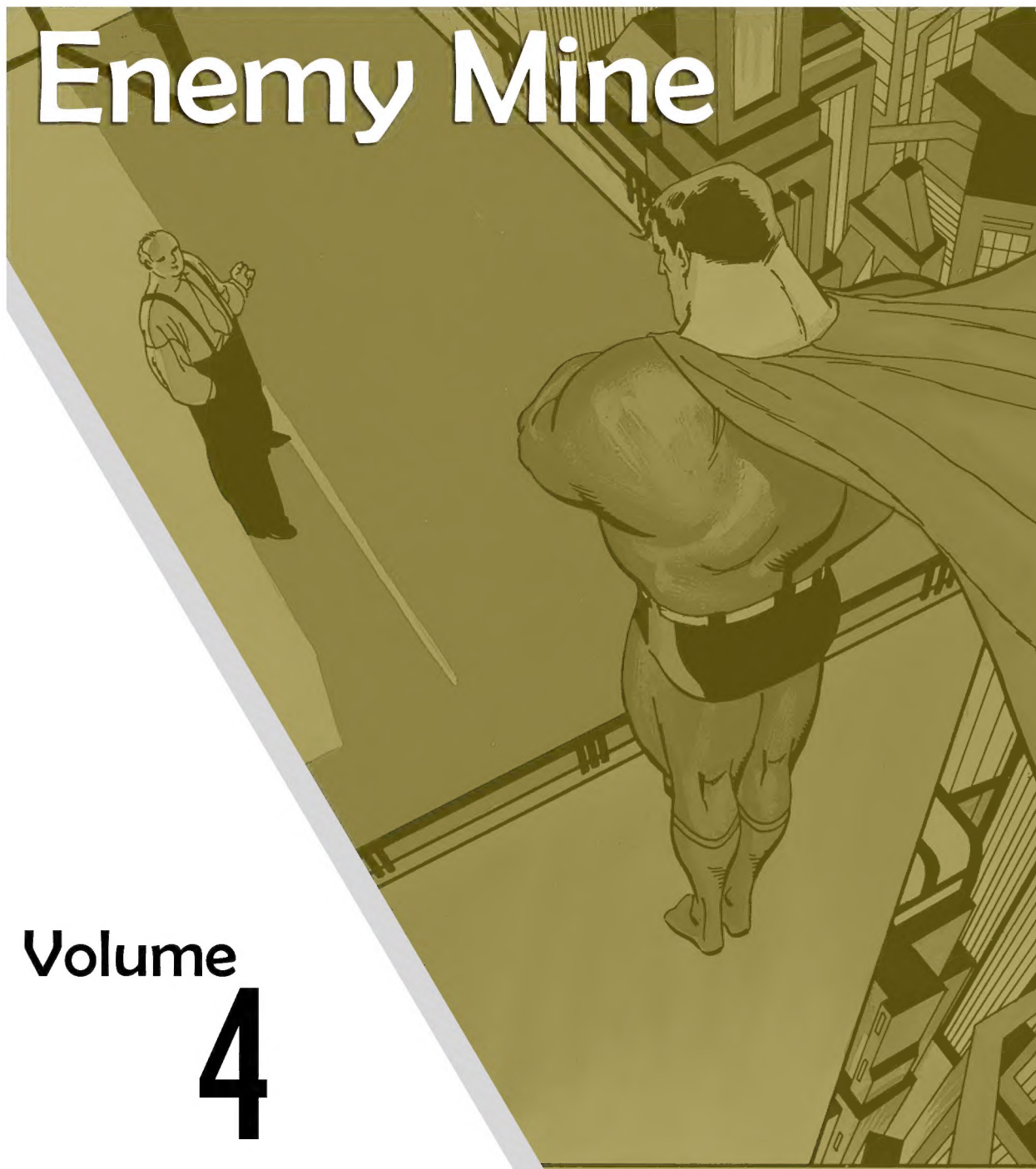
Post-**CRISIS**
ON INFINITE EARTHS

Post-

CRISIS

Enemy Mine

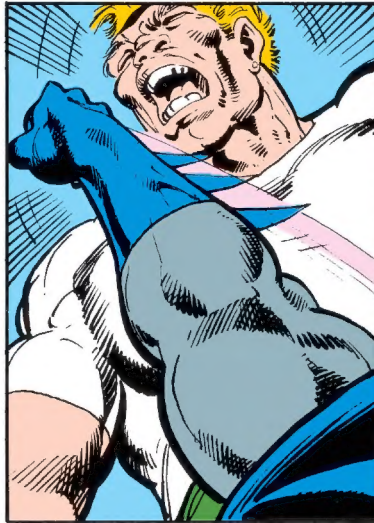
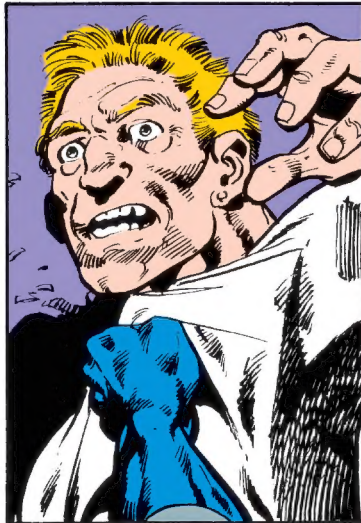
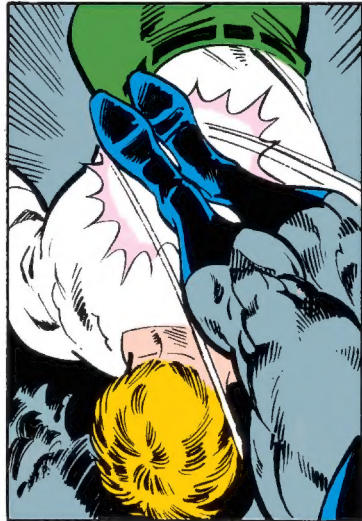
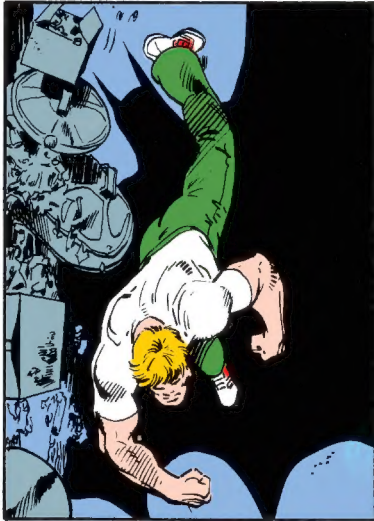
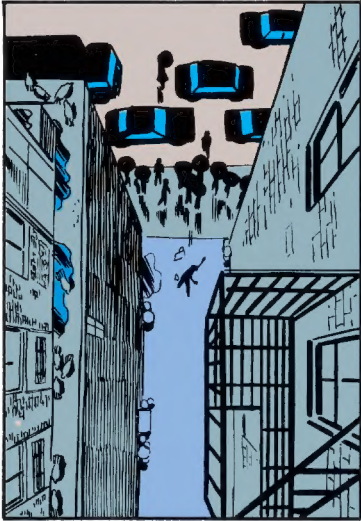
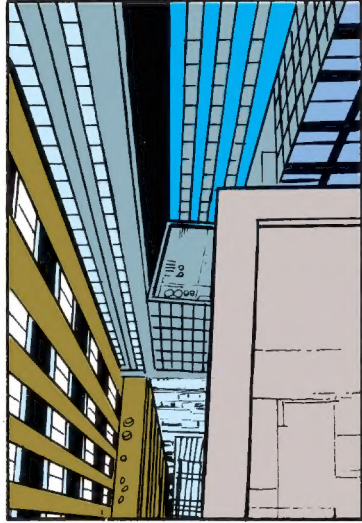
Enemy Mine



Volume

4

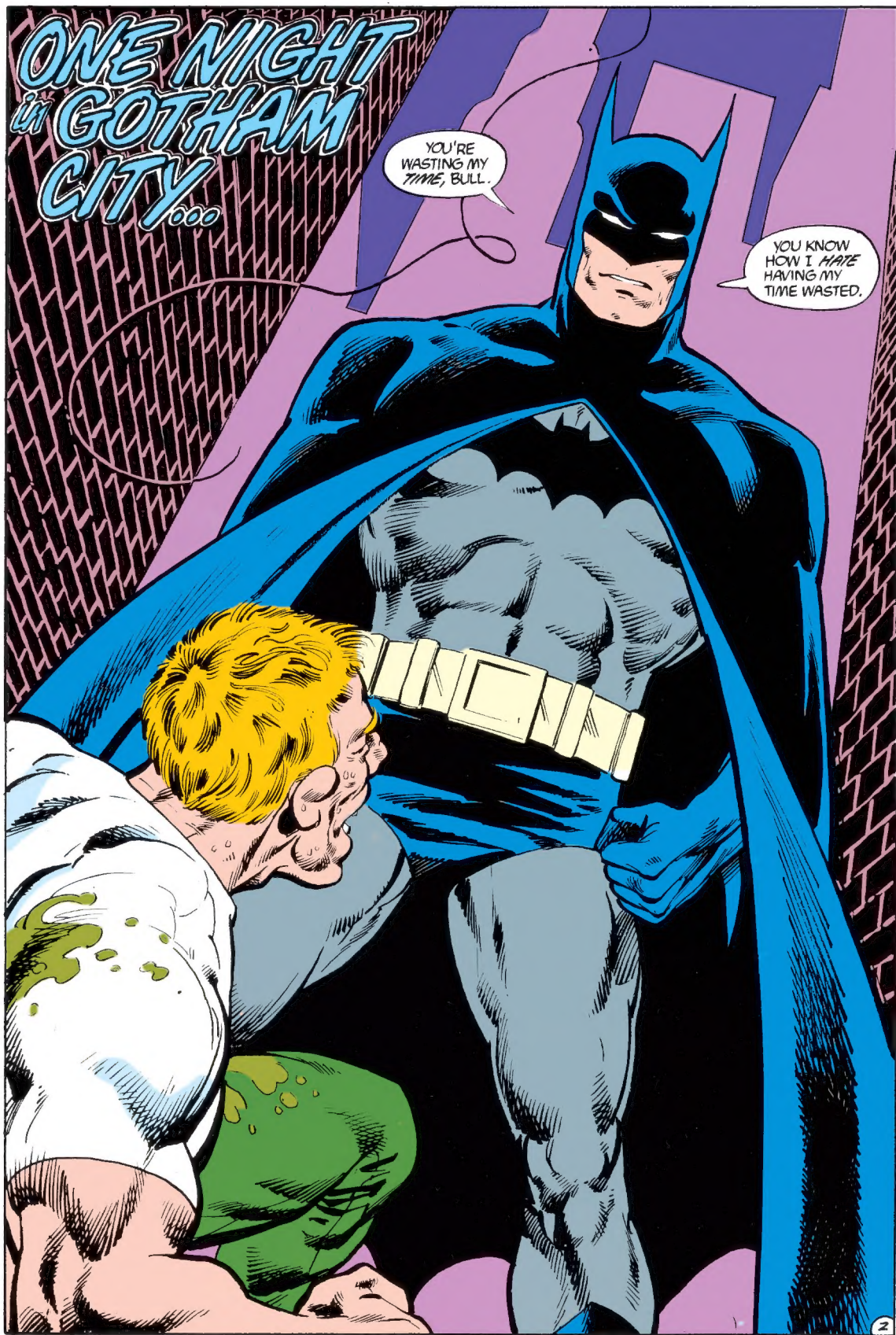
BOOK THREE

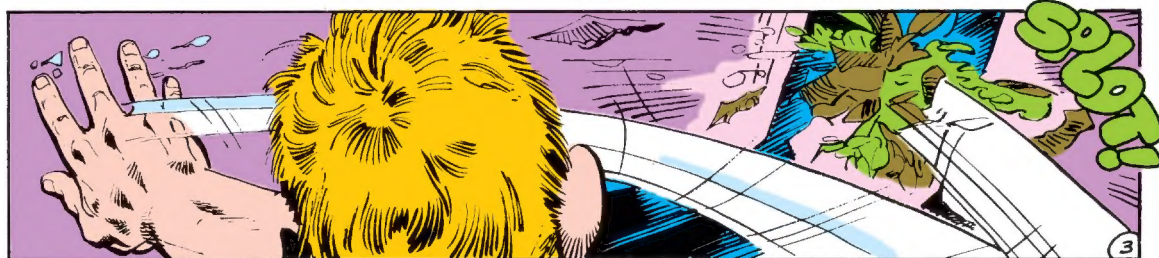
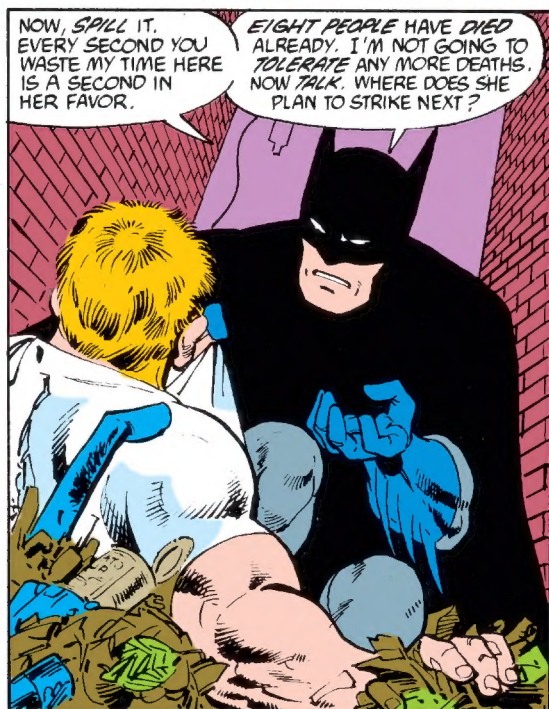
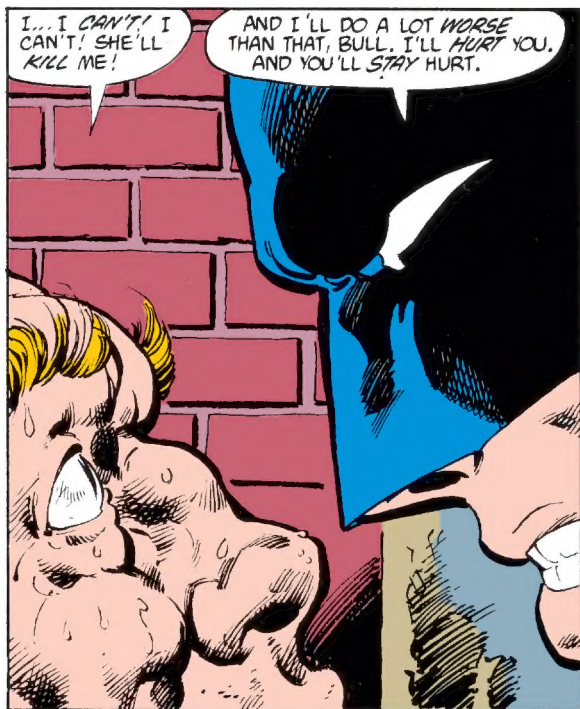
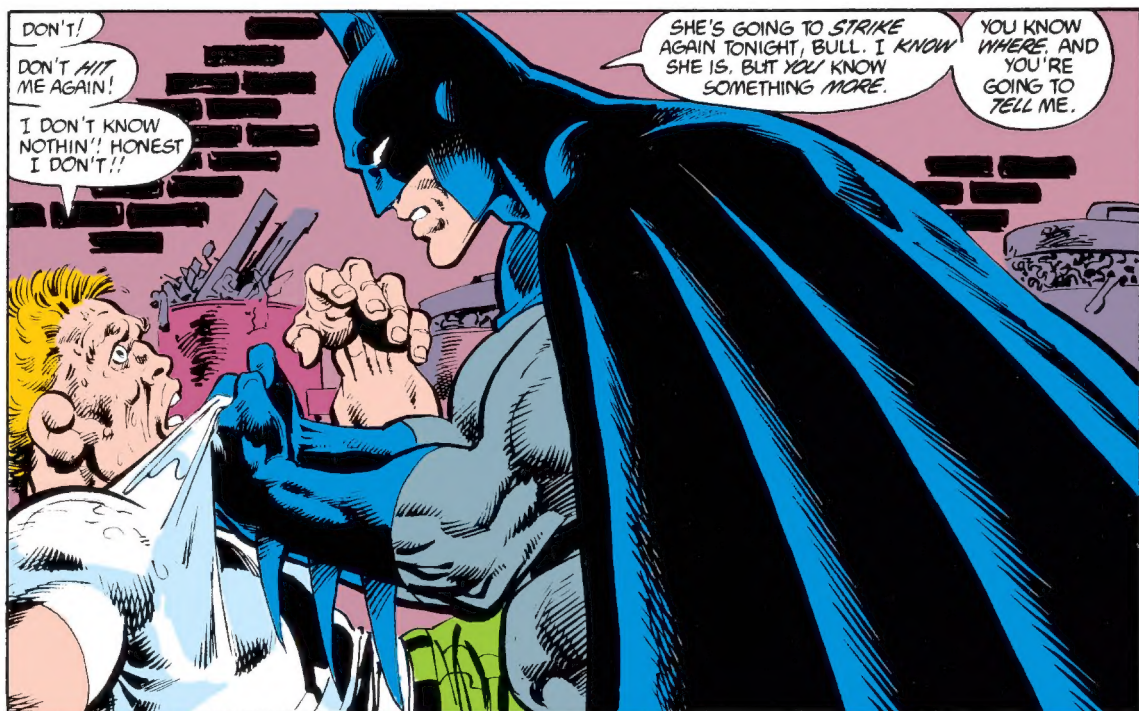


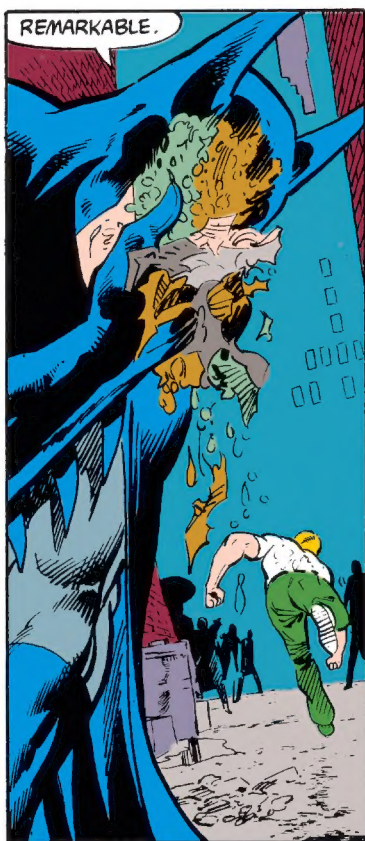
ONE NIGHT in GOTHAM CITY...

YOU'RE
WASTING MY
TIME, BULL.

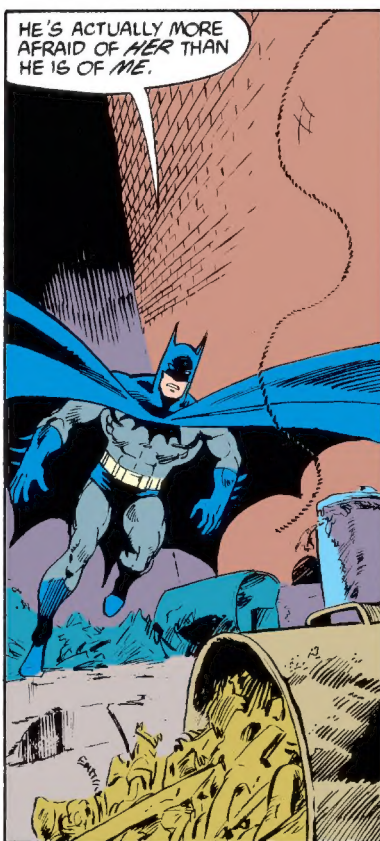
YOU KNOW
HOW I *HATE*
HAVING MY
TIME WASTED.



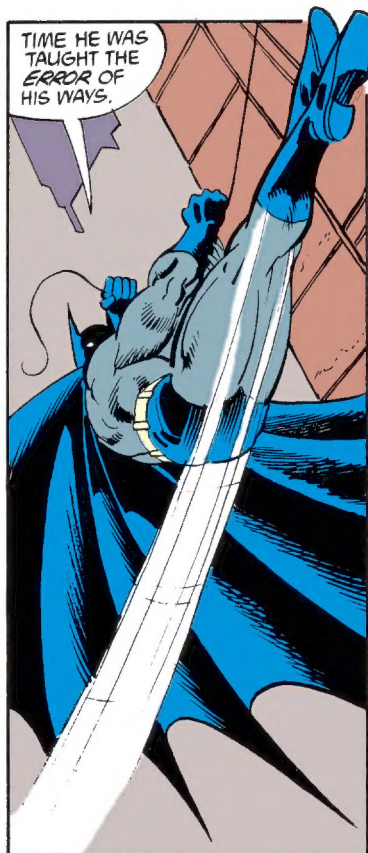




REMARKABLE.



HE'S ACTUALLY MORE AFRAID OF *HER* THAN HE IS OF *ME*.



TIME HE WAS TAUGHT THE *ERROR* OF HIS WAYS.



THE ONLY WAY *ONE MAN* CAN CLEAN UP THIS TOWN IS IF ALL THE LOW-LIFE STAY GOOD AND *SCARED*.

AND THAT MEANS DISHING OUT A FEW *OBJECT LESSONS*, ONCE IN A WHILE.

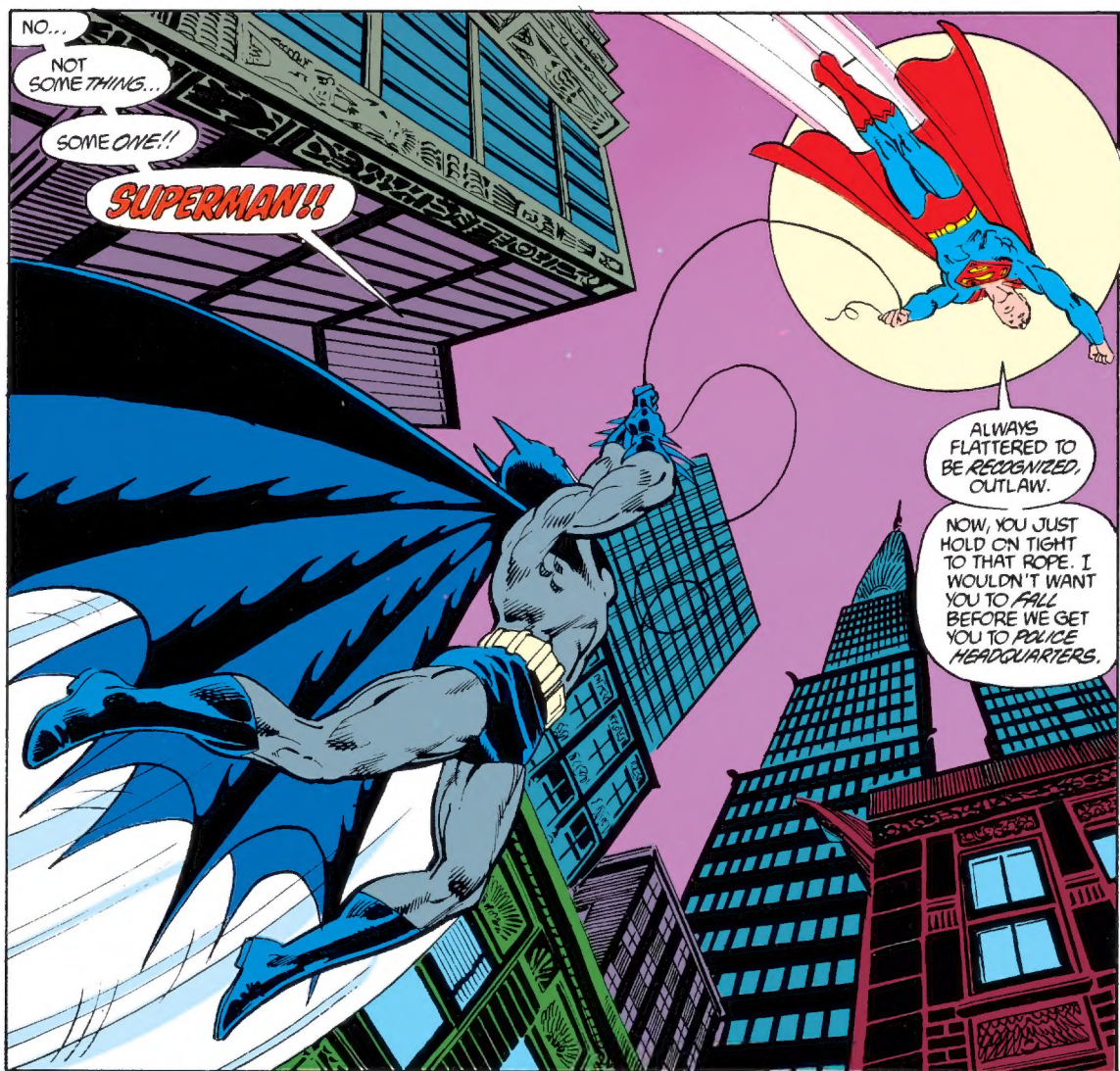


TOO BAD FOR BULL. HE'S QUITE *ATHLETIC*, IN HIS OWN WAY.

HE'S NOT GOING TO *LIKE* HAVING TO GET AROUND ON *CRUTCHES* FOR...

WHAT THE...??

SOMETHING'S GOT HOLD OF MY LINE!



NO...
NOT
SOMETHING...

SOMEONE!!

SUPERMAN!!

ALWAYS
FLATTERED
TO BE *RECOGNIZED*,
OUTLAW.

NOW, YOU JUST
HOLD ON TIGHT
TO THAT ROPE. I
WOULDN'T WANT
YOU TO *FALL*
BEFORE WE GET
YOU TO *POLICE*
HEADQUARTERS.

"POLICE...?" NO, I
DON'T THINK SO.
THAT'S AN
ESTABLISHMENT
I PREFER TO VISIT
ON MY OWN
TERMS.

WELL, I'M
AFRAID I'M
NOT ABOUT
TO GIVE YOU
MUCH *CHOICE*
IN THE...

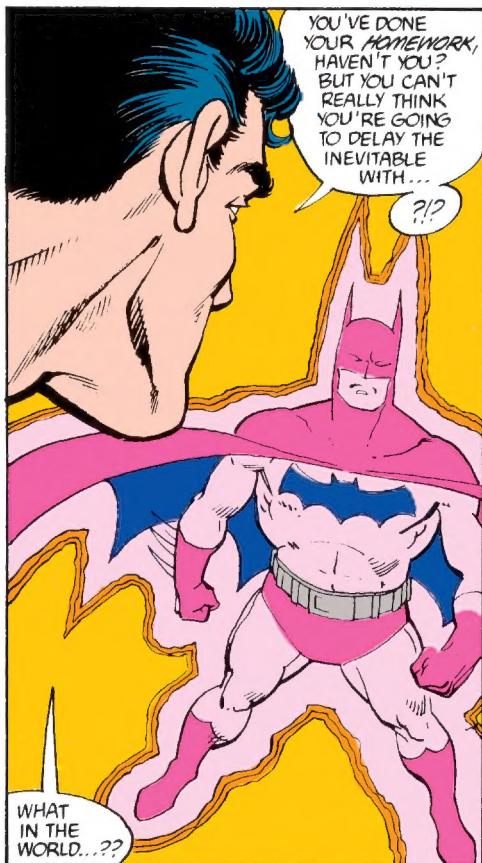
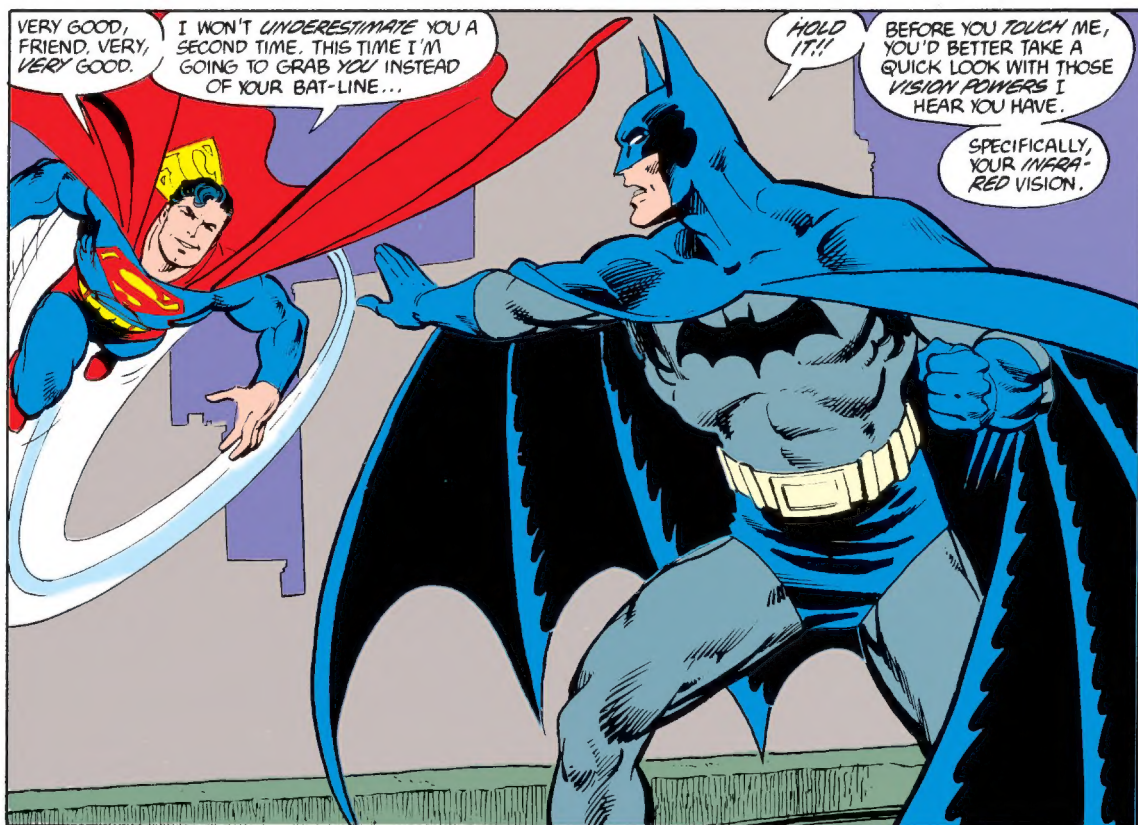
HEY!

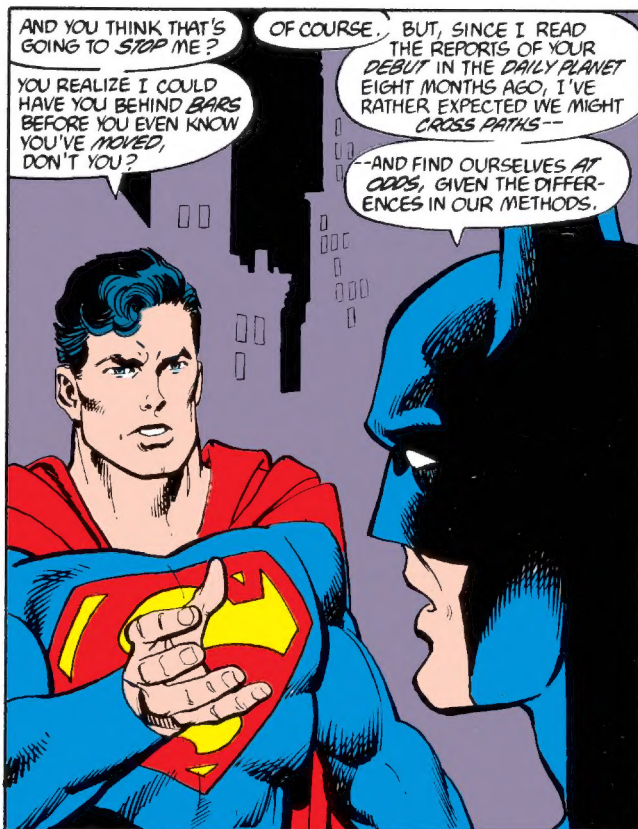
HE LET GO OF
THE LINE!

HE'LL
PLUNGE TO
HIS *DEATH*
IF I DON'T...

!?!







AND YOU THINK THAT'S GOING TO *STOP* ME?

YOU REALIZE I COULD HAVE YOU BEHIND *BAR*S BEFORE YOU EVEN KNOW YOU'VE *MOVED*, DON'T YOU?

OF COURSE... BUT, SINCE I READ THE REPORTS OF YOUR *DEBUT* IN THE *DAILY PLANET* EIGHT MONTHS AGO, I'VE RATHER EXPECTED WE MIGHT *CROSS PATHS*--

--AND FIND OURSELVES AT *ODDS*, GIVEN THE DIFFERENCES IN OUR METHODS.

SO I DEvised A WAY TO *STOP* YOU, SUPERMAN.

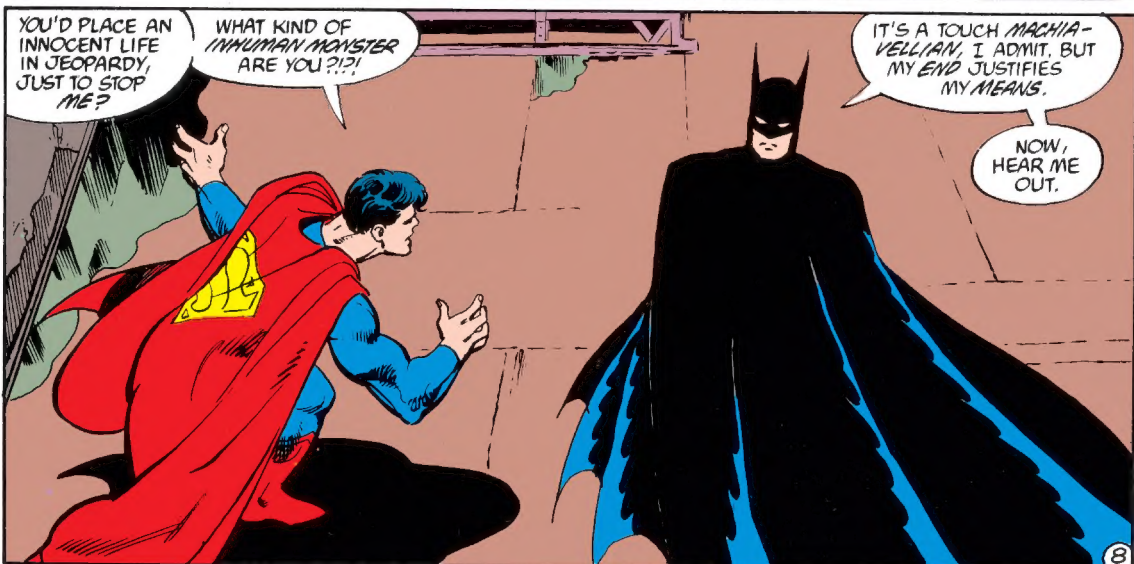
IF YOU *PENETRATE* THE FIELD SURROUNDING MY BODY, AN ELECTRONIC SIGNAL WILL GO OUT, INSTANTANEOUSLY.

THAT SIGNAL WILL DETONATE A *BOMB* HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN GOTHAM CITY. THE EXPLOSION WILL *KILL* AN INNOCENT PERSON.



WH-WHAT,...???

YOU...YOU'D REALLY DO THAT?

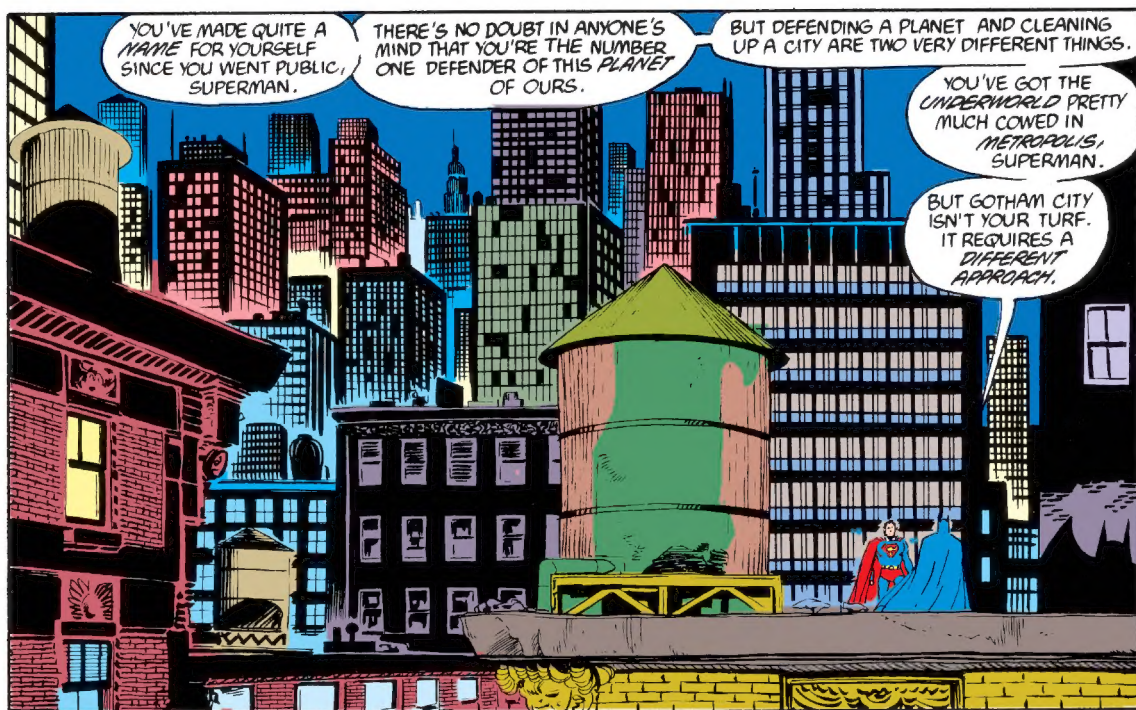


YOU'D PLACE AN INNOCENT LIFE IN JEOPARDY, JUST TO *STOP ME*?

WHAT KIND OF *INHUMAN MONSTER* ARE YOU???

IT'S A TOUCH *MACHIAVELLIAN*, I ADMIT. BUT MY *END* JUSTIFIES MY *MEANS*.

NOW, HEAR ME OUT.



YOU'VE MADE QUITE A NAME FOR YOURSELF SINCE YOU WENT PUBLIC, SUPERMAN.

THERE'S NO DOUBT IN ANYONE'S MIND THAT YOU'RE THE NUMBER ONE DEFENDER OF THIS PLANET OF OURS.

BUT DEFENDING A PLANET AND CLEANING UP A CITY ARE TWO VERY DIFFERENT THINGS.

YOU'VE GOT THE UNDERWORLD PRETTY MUCH COWED IN METROPOLIS, SUPERMAN.

BUT GOTHAM CITY ISN'T YOUR TURF. IT REQUIRES A DIFFERENT APPROACH.



"CASE IN POINT..."

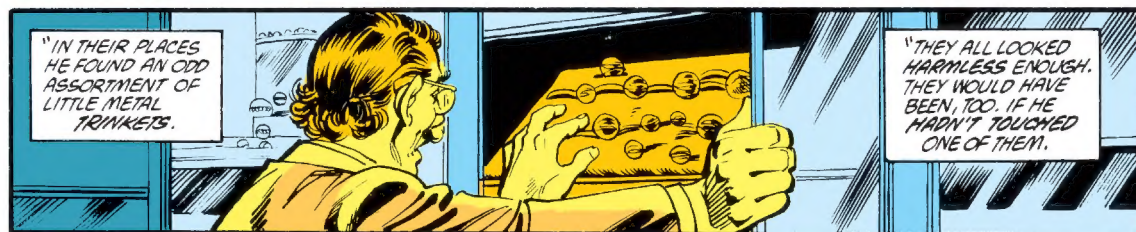
"SIX DAYS AGO, MR. HENRY JARRELL OPENED HIS DONNER AVENUE JEWELRY SHOP AT 7:15 A.M., AS USUAL."



"ONLY HE VERY QUICKLY DISCOVERED THINGS WERE NOT AS USUAL."

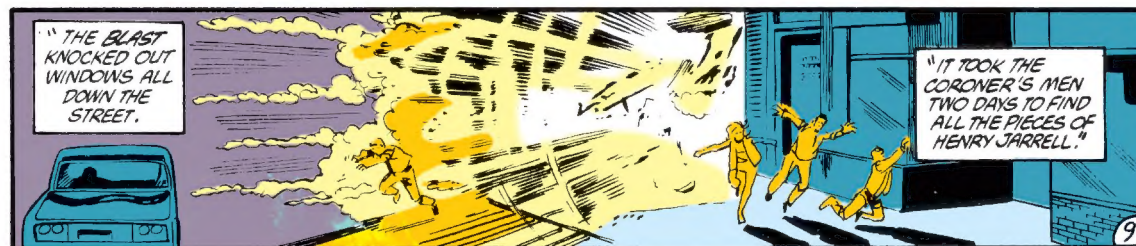
"DURING THE NIGHT, MR. JARRELL'S LITTLE SHOP HAD BEEN BURGLARIZED."

"ALL HIS PRECIOUS STONES HAD BEEN REMOVED."



"IN THEIR PLACES HE FOUND AN ODD ASSORTMENT OF LITTLE METAL TRINKETS."

"THEY ALL LOOKED HARMLESS ENOUGH. THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN, TOO. IF HE HADN'T TOUCHED ONE OF THEM."



"THE BLAST KNOCKED OUT WINDOWS ALL DOWN THE STREET."

"IT TOOK THE CORONER'S MEN TWO DAYS TO FIND ALL THE PIECES OF HENRY JARRELL."

"OVER THE NEXT FIVE DAYS, THAT PARTICULAR SIGNATURE TURNED UP ON THREE ADDITIONAL HEISTS.

"EACH TIME WITH A SPECIAL, UNIQUE TWIST.

"CHANCELLOR'S DIAMOND EXCHANGE: A POISON GAS BOMB WAS LEFT IN PLACE OF THE REGENCY EMERALD.

"THREE DEAD.

"WILL AKKER'S RARE STONES AND GEMS:

"A GADGET THAT SQUIRTED ACID.

"TWO DEAD, ONE HORRIBLY DISFIGURED.

"TANNEBAUM'S ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES:

"TO REPLACE A PRICELESS PLATINUM CHESS-SET, A LITTLE STEEL ROOK THAT FIRED RAZOR-EDGED BLADES.

"THREE DEAD, TWO HOSPITALIZED.

"AN HOUR AGO MY INVESTIGATIONS LED ME TO A MAN NAMED BULL CARTER.

"I WAS AFTER HIM WHEN YOU INTERRUPTED"

BULL IS A SMALL-TIME HOOD, MUSCLE FOR HIRE.

AND EVERY INDICATION WAS THAT HE'D BEEN HIRED BY THE "LADY" BEHIND THESE CRIMES.

A PARTICULARLY FATAL FEMME WHO CALLS HERSELF...

"...MAGPIE!"

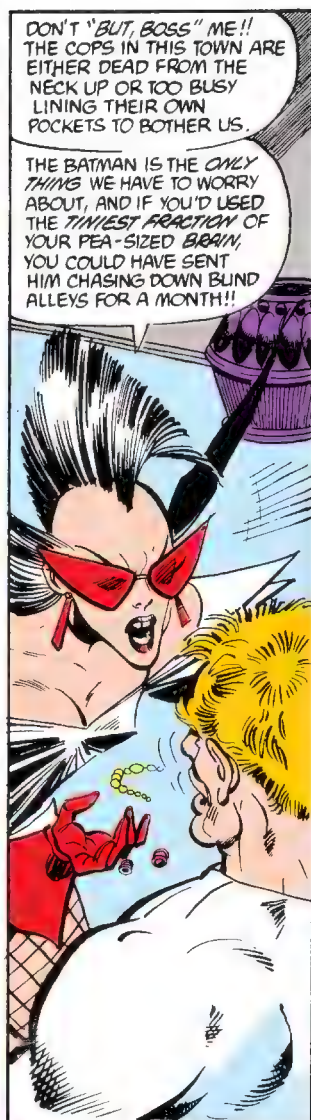
FOOL!!



STUPID,
BLITHERING
IDIOT!!

YOU HAD THE
PERFECT OPPORTUNITY
TO MISLEAD THE
BATMAN, AND YOU
BLEW IT!!

B-BUT...
BUT,
BOSS...!



DON'T "BUT, BOSS" ME!!
THE COPS IN THIS TOWN ARE
EITHER DEAD FROM THE
NECK UP OR TOO BUSY
LINING THEIR OWN
ROCKETS TO BOTHER US.

THE BATMAN IS THE *ONLY*
THINGS WE HAVE TO WORRY
ABOUT, AND IF YOU'D USED
THE *TINIEST* FRACTION OF
YOUR PEA-SIZED BRAIN,
YOU COULD HAVE SENT
HIM CHASING DOWN BUND
ALLEYS FOR A MONTH!!



GEEZ, BOSS...IF
TH' BATMAN IS
THAT CLOSE, MAYBE
WE SHOULD LIE
LOW FOR A WEEK
OR TWO, HUH?

"LIE
LOW"?

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.
CARLING, McDOWELL
BRYAN'S COLLECTION OF
FABERGE EGGS WILL BE IN
GOTHAM CITY ONLY ANOTHER
TWELVE HOURS.

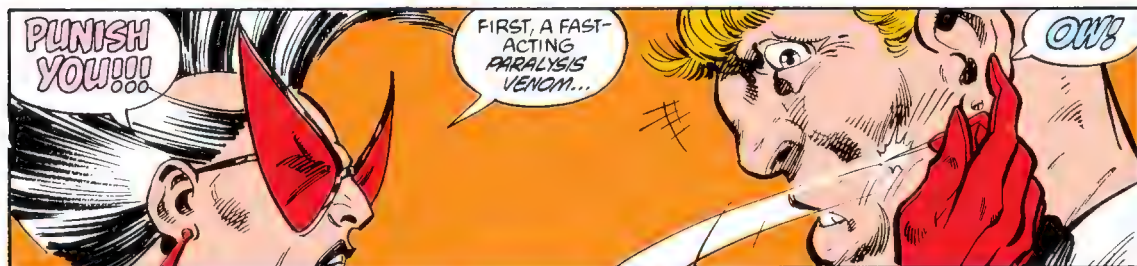


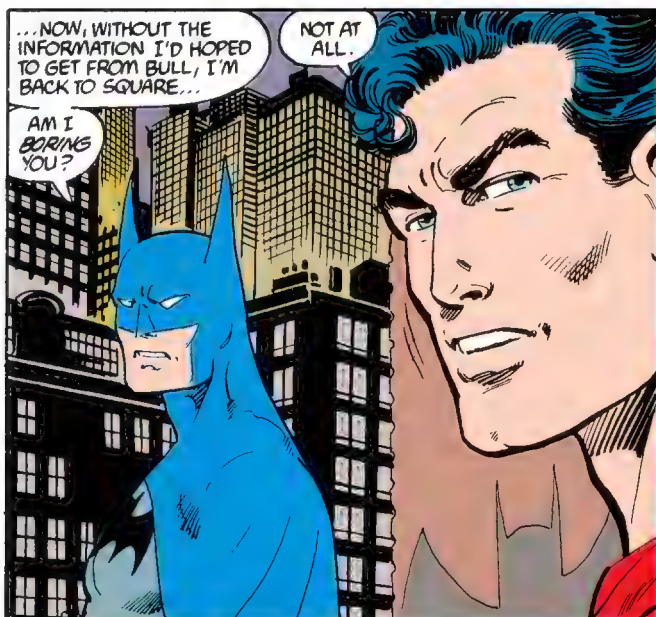
AND THEY'RE SUCH
PRETTY THINGS.
SUCH PRETTY,
SPARKLING
THINGS.

I *MUST* HAVE THEM. I
MUST HAVE *ALL* THE
PRETTY, SHINY THINGS.

MUST...

...HAVE...





...NOW, WITHOUT THE INFORMATION I'D HOPED TO GET FROM BULL, I'M BACK TO SQUARE...

NOT AT ALL.

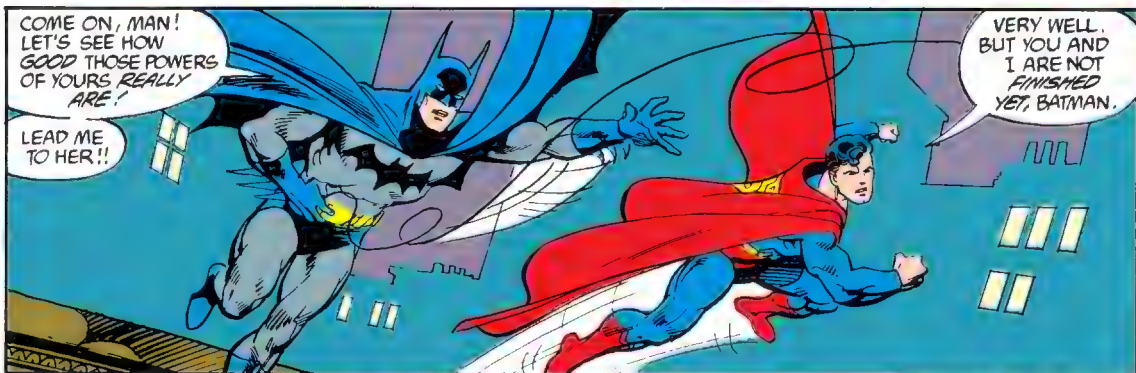
AM I BORING YOU?



BUT I JUST HEARD AN EXPLOSION, AND NOW, WHAT SOUNDS LIKE A WOMAN... LAUGHING...

MAGGIE!

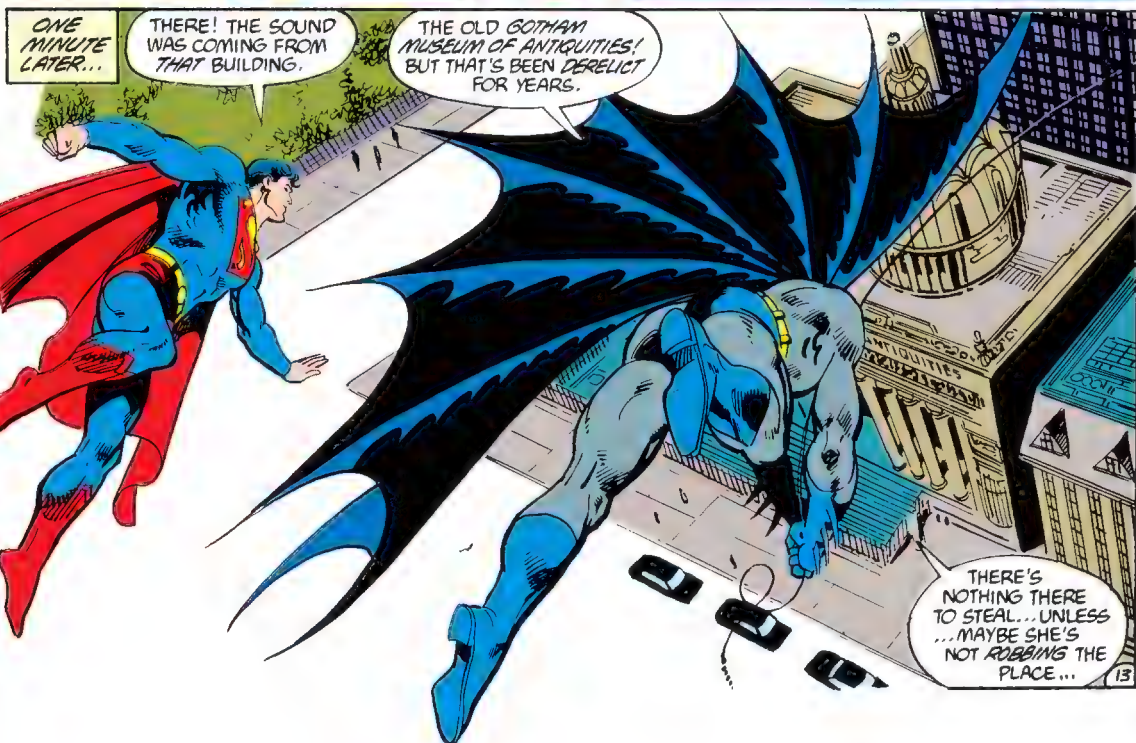
SHE'S STRUCK AGAIN!



COME ON, MAN! LET'S SEE HOW GOOD THOSE POWERS OF YOURS REALLY ARE!

LEAD ME TO HER!!

VERY WELL. BUT YOU AND I ARE NOT FINISHED YET, BATMAN.



ONE MINUTE LATER...

THERE! THE SOUND WAS COMING FROM THAT BUILDING.

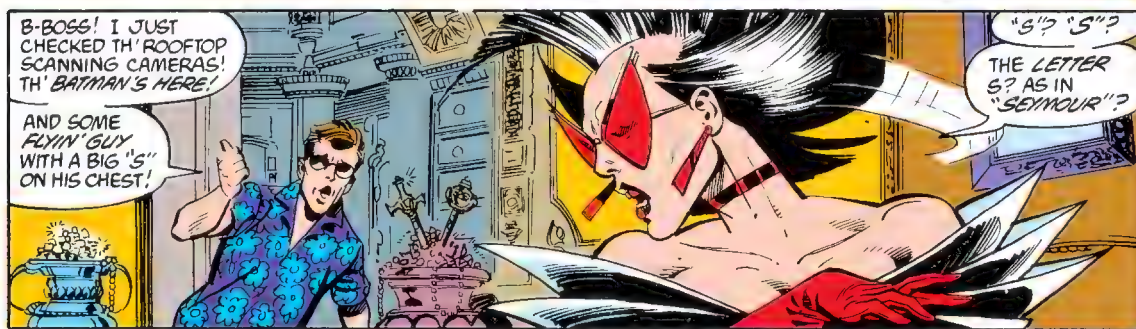
THE OLD GOTHAM MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES! BUT THAT'S BEEN DERELICT FOR YEARS.

THERE'S NOTHING THERE TO STEAL... UNLESS... MAYBE SHE'S NOT RUBBING THE PLACE...



HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!

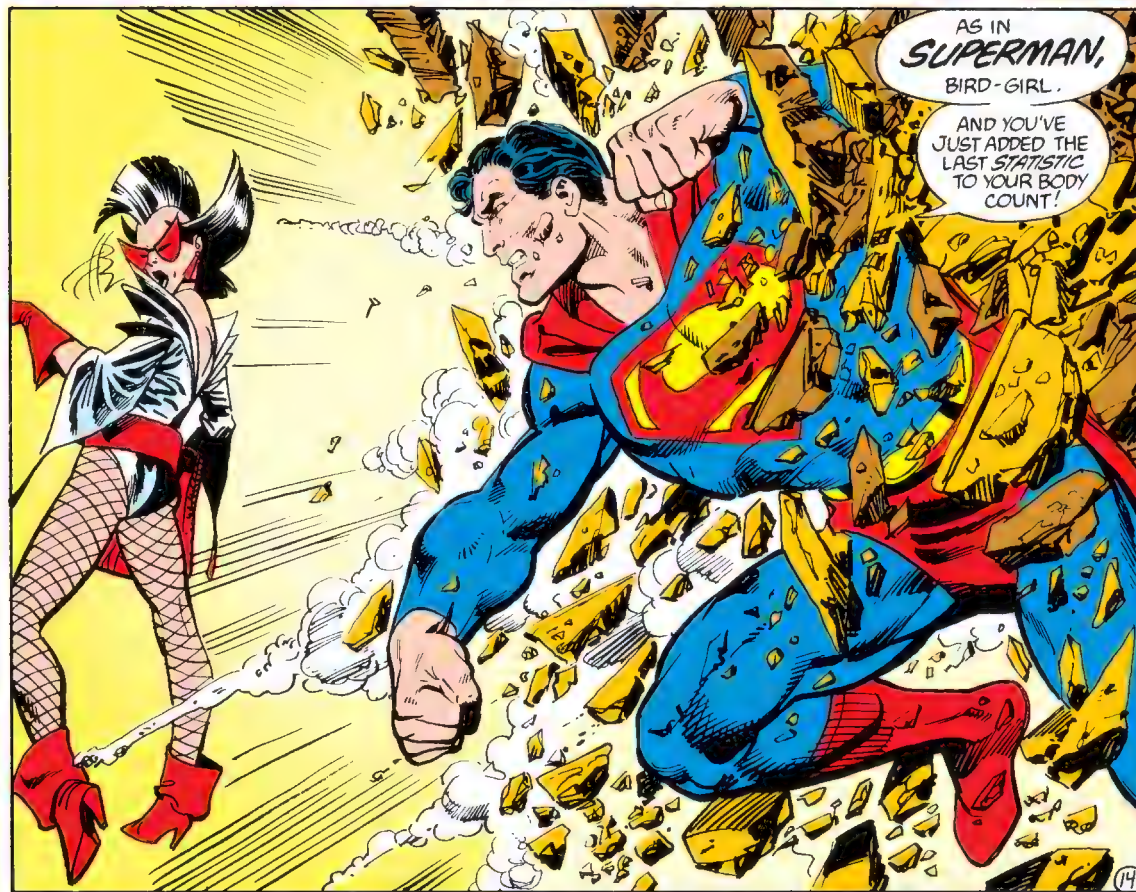
POOR BULL!
NOW HE'LL
NEVER GET
AHEAD IN THE
WORLD!!



B-BOSS! I JUST
CHECKED TH' ROOFTOP
SCANNING CAMERAS!
TH' BATMAN'S HERE!

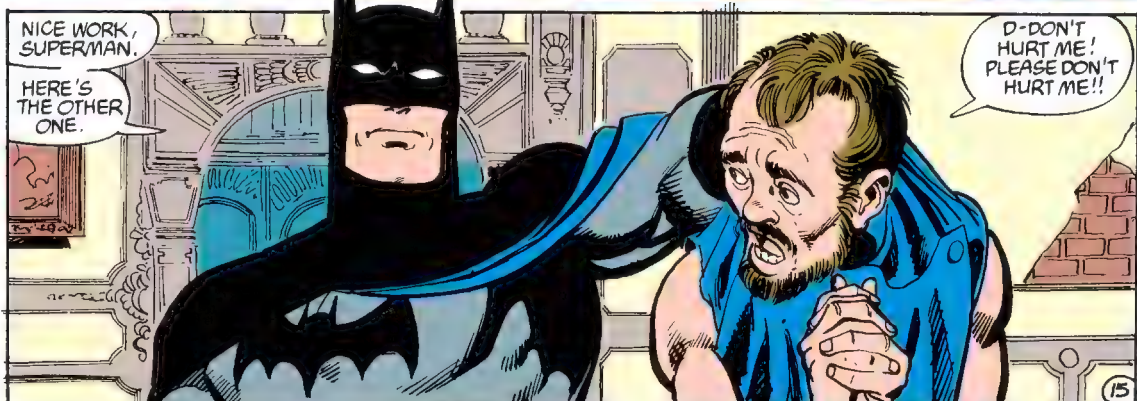
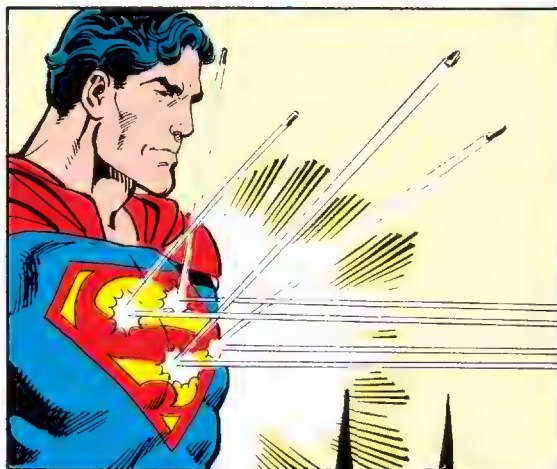
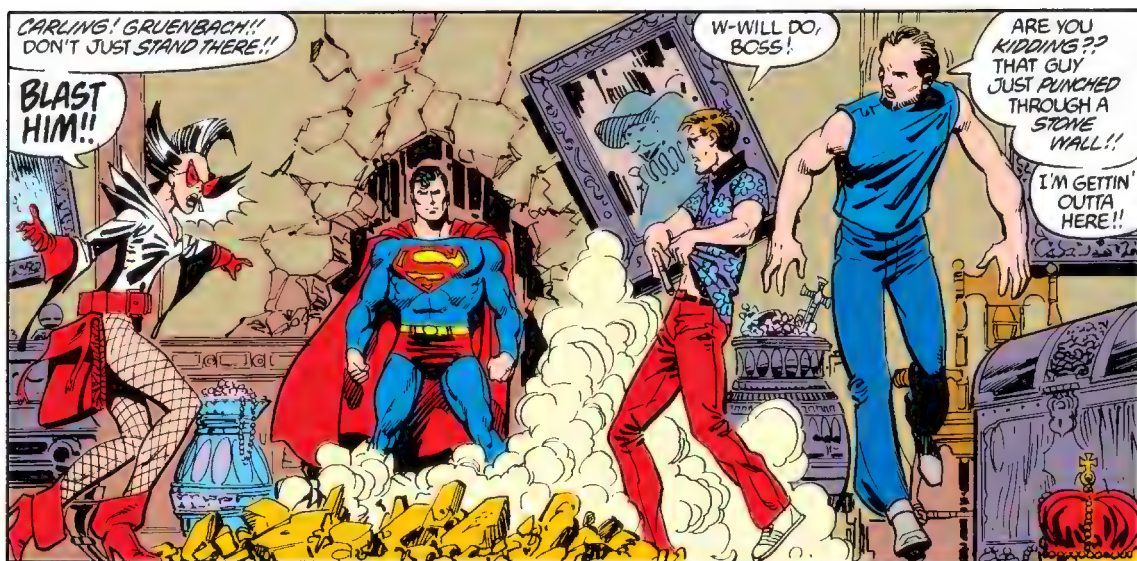
AND SOME
FLYIN' GUY
WITH A BIG "S"
ON HIS CHEST!

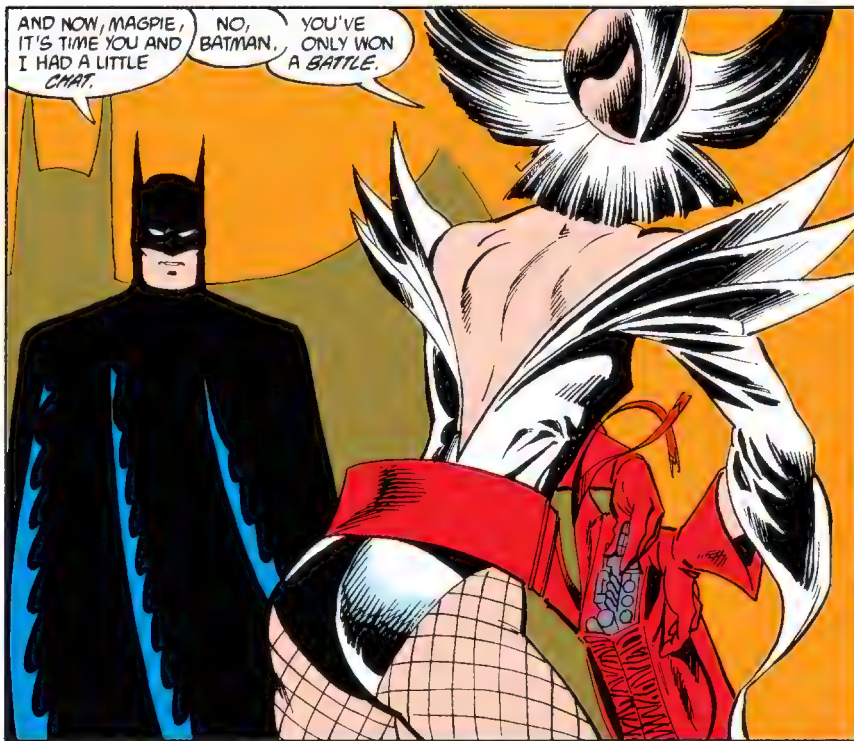
"S"? "S"?
THE LETTER
S? AS IN
"SEYMOUR"?



AS IN
SUPERMAN,
BIRD-GIRL.

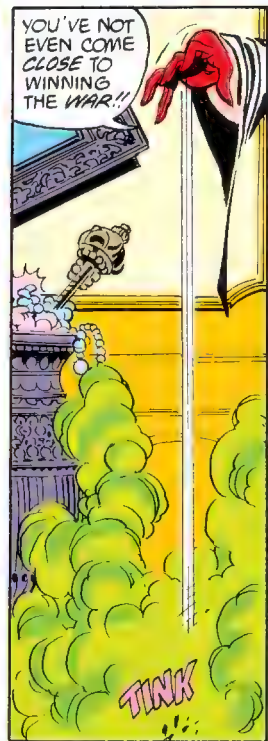
AND YOU'VE
JUST ADDED THE
LAST
STATISTIC
TO YOUR BODY
COUNT!





AND NOW, MAGPIE,
IT'S TIME YOU AND
I HAD A LITTLE
CHAT.

NO,
BATMAN.
YOU'VE
ONLY WON
A BATTLE.



YOU'VE NOT
EVEN COME
CLOSE TO
WINNING
THE WAR!!

TINK



T.T.F.N.
SUPER-
SAPS!!

THAT
GAS...!

IT'S LIKE
ACID!

IT'S EATING
EVERYTHING
IT TOUCHES!

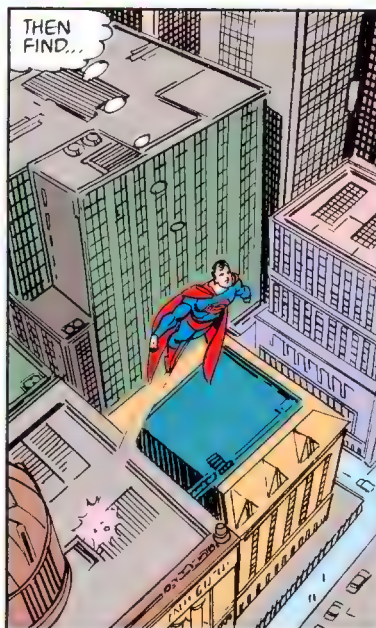


MAGPIE IS
ESCAPING!

AND I CAN'T GO
AFTER HER AND
PROTECT THE OTHERS,
BECAUSE I CAN'T TOUCH
THE BATMAN!

I'LL HAVE
TO LET MAGPIE
GO, FOR
NOW...

...WHILE I
INHALE ALL
THE GAS!



THEN
FIND...



...A
SAFE
PLACE...

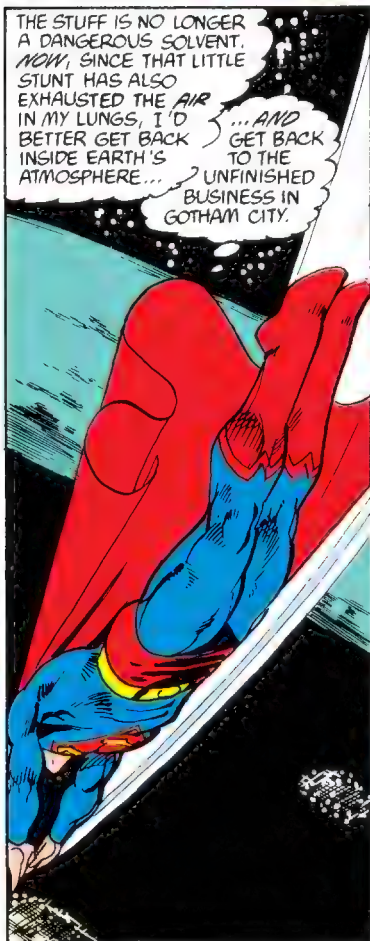


...TO DISPOSE
OF IT!



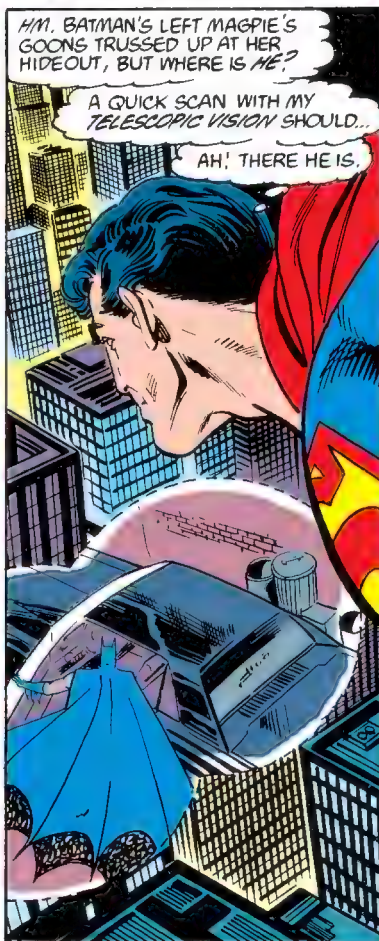
THERE!

IN THE
FRIGID VACUUM OF SPACE,
THE GAS IS INSTANTLY FROZEN
INTO CRYSTALS OF ICE, AND
MY MICROSCOPIC VISION
SHOWS THAT THE FREEZING
PROCESS HAS CAUSED A
CHEMICAL CHANGE...



THE STUFF IS NO LONGER
A DANGEROUS SOLVENT.
NOW, SINCE THAT LITTLE
STUNT HAS ALSO
EXHAUSTED THE AIR
IN MY LUNGS, I'D
BETTER GET BACK
INSIDE EARTH'S
ATMOSPHERE...

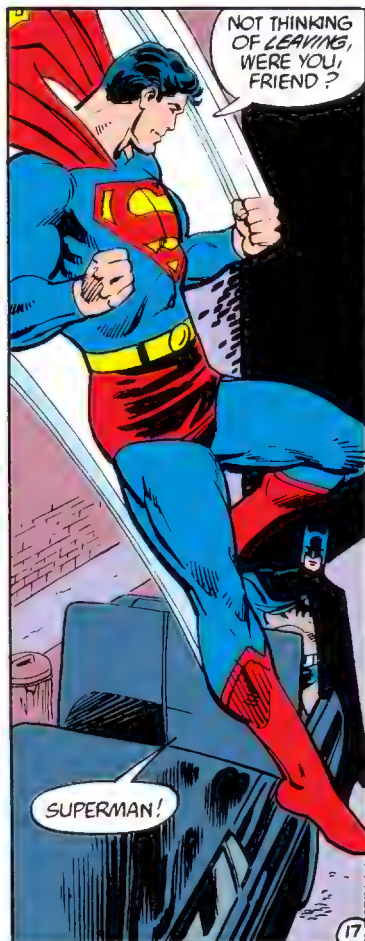
...AND
GET BACK
TO THE
UNFINISHED
BUSINESS IN
GOTHAM CITY.



H/M. BATMAN'S LEFT MAGPIE'S
GOONS TRUSS'D UP AT HER
HIDEOUT, BUT WHERE IS HE?

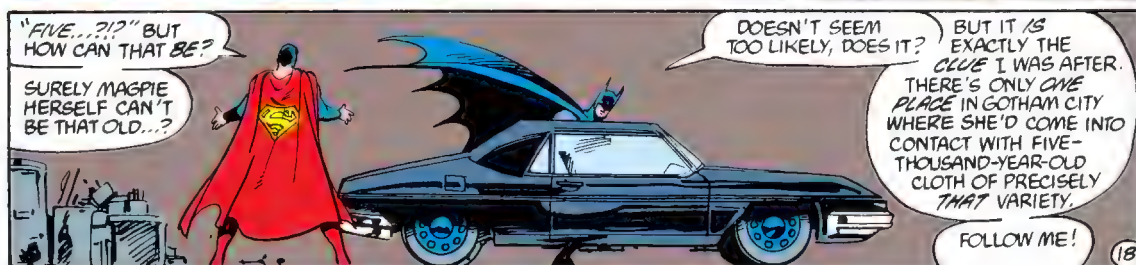
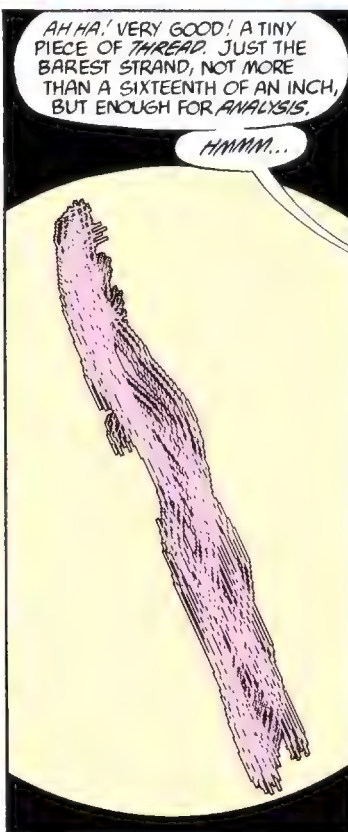
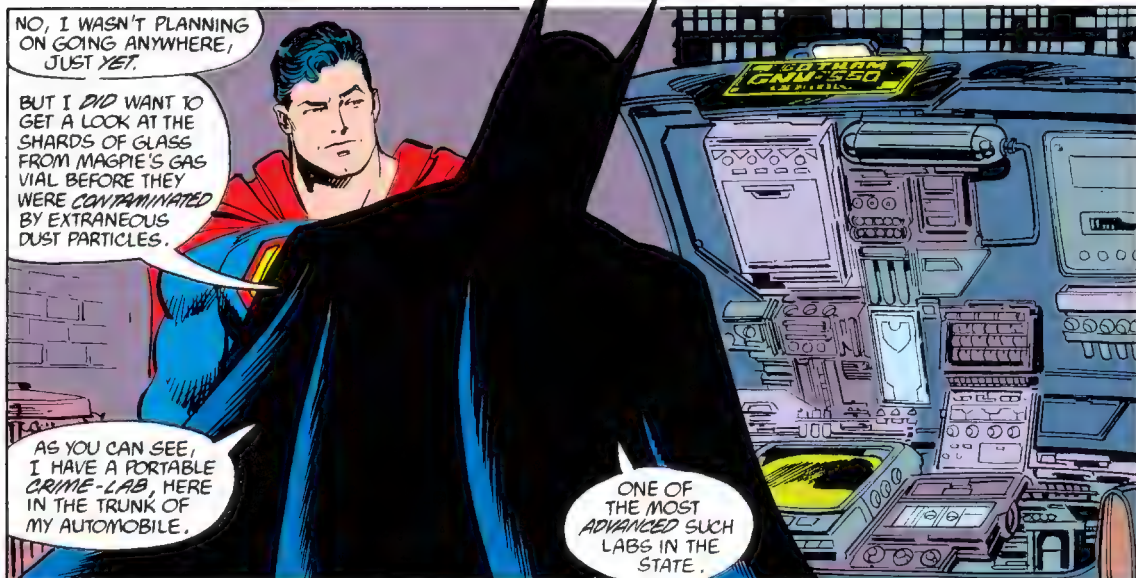
A QUICK SCAN WITH MY
TELESCOPIC VISION SHOULD...

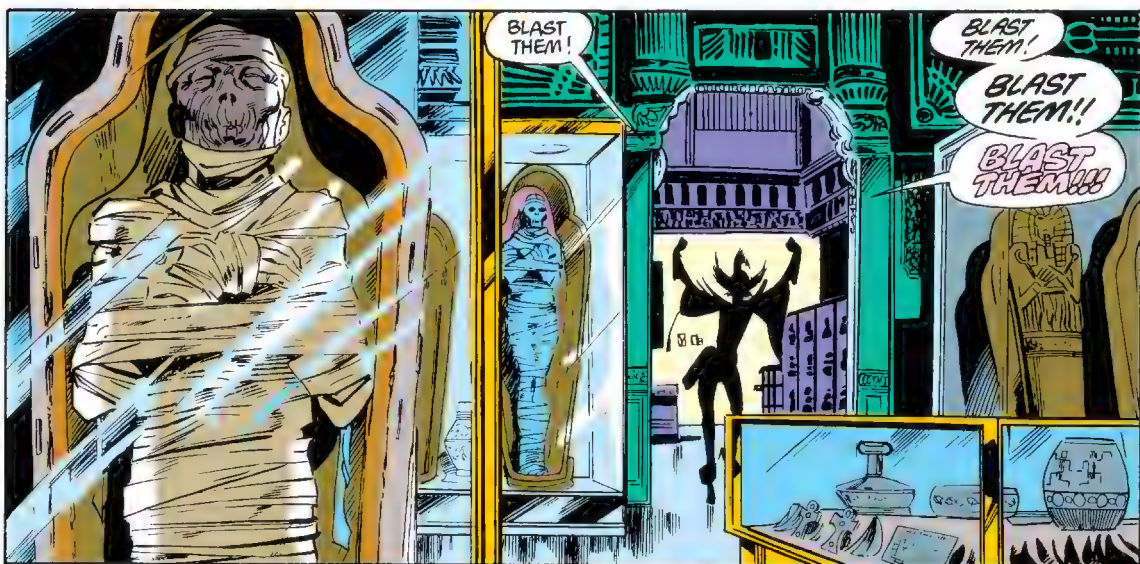
AH! THERE HE IS.



NOT THINKING
OF LEAVING,
WERE YOU,
FRIEND?

SUPERMAN!



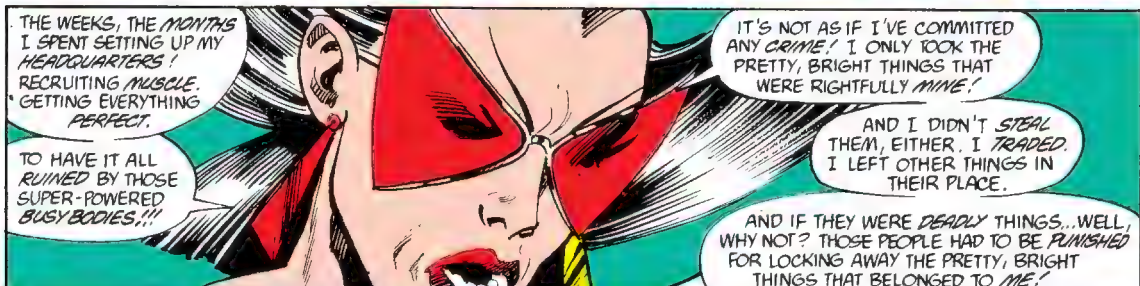


BLAST THEM!

BLAST THEM!

BLAST THEM!!

BLAST THEM!!!



THE WEEKS, THE MONTHS I SPENT SETTING UP MY HEADQUARTERS! RECRUITING MUSCLE. GETTING EVERYTHING PERFECT.

TO HAVE IT ALL RUINED BY THOSE SUPER-POWERED BUSY BODIES!!!

IT'S NOT AS IF I'VE COMMITTED ANY CRIME! I ONLY TOOK THE PRETTY, BRIGHT THINGS THAT WERE RIGHTFULLY MINE!

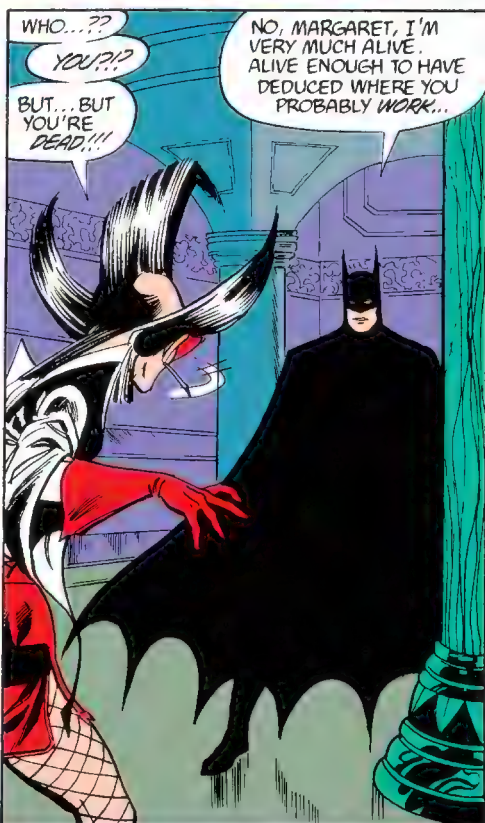
AND I DIDN'T STEAL THEM, EITHER. I TRADED. I LEFT OTHER THINGS IN THEIR PLACE.

AND IF THEY WERE DEADLY THINGS...WELL, WHY NOT? THOSE PEOPLE HAD TO BE PUNISHED FOR LOCKING AWAY THE PRETTY, BRIGHT THINGS THAT BELONGED TO ME!



AND NOW!!! NOW IT MAY BE MORE MONTHS BEFORE I HAVE SUCH A CLEAR SHOT AT THOSE FABERGÉ EGGS!

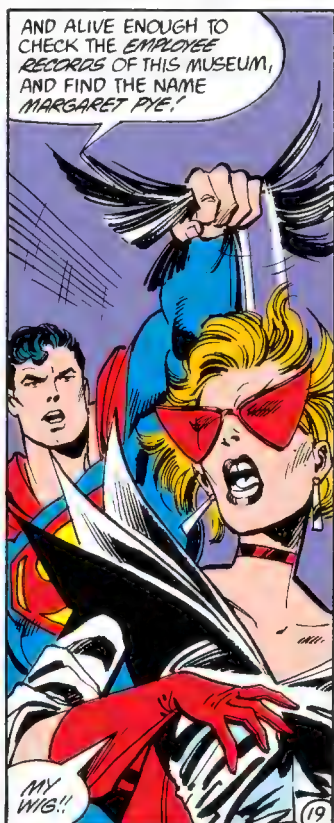
MORE LIKE YEARS, MARGARET.



WHO...?? YOU?..?

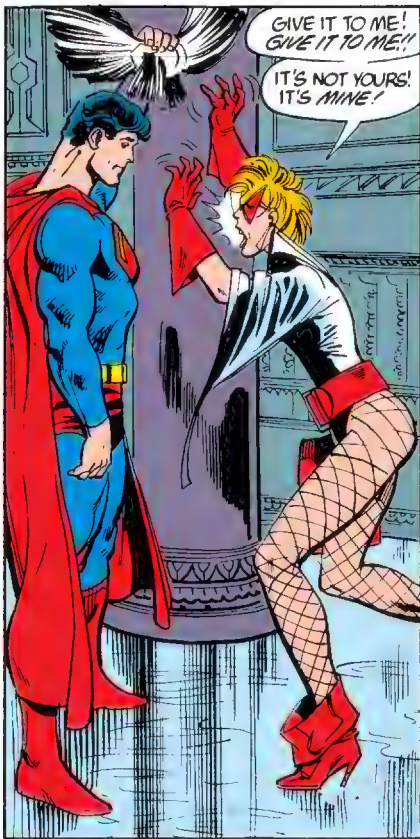
BUT...BUT YOU'RE DEAD!!!

NO, MARGARET, I'M VERY MUCH ALIVE. ALIVE ENOUGH TO HAVE DEDUCED WHERE YOU PROBABLY WORK...



AND ALIVE ENOUGH TO CHECK THE EMPLOYEE RECORDS OF THIS MUSEUM, AND FIND THE NAME MARGARET P.I.E.

MY WIS!!



GIVE IT TO ME!
GIVE IT TO ME!!

IT'S NOT YOURS!
IT'S MINE!

IT'S MINE! IT'S
MINE! YOU
CAN'T...

...HAVE...

...CAN'T...

...HAVE...

...THE PRETTY
THINGS...

...CAN'T
HAVE THE
PRETTY...

...PRETTY...

...PRETTY...



STRANGE... TO SEE
HER BREAK DOWN
LIKE THAT...

I... CAN'T HELP
BUT FEEL SORRY
FOR HER.

YOU
THINK I
DON'T?

SHE'S NOT A REAL CRIMINAL.
NOT LIKE THE KIND OF
GUTTER-SLIME I'VE
DEDICATED MYSELF TO
DESTROYING.

SHE'S JUST A FRAIL,
HUMAN PSYCHE. AN
UNBALANCED ID THAT
GOT PUSHED TOO FAR.
YOU SAW THE PSYCHO-
LOGICAL PROFILE IN
HER RECORD.

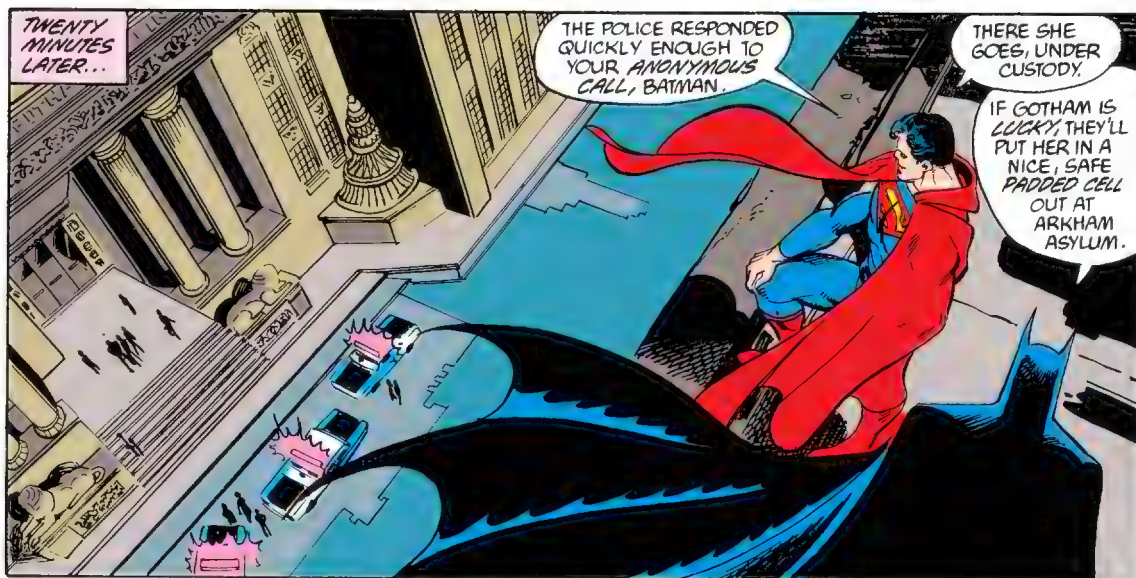
A LITTLE GIRL WHO LOVED
PRETTY THINGS, A TRIFLE
TOO MUCH, PERHAPS. WHO
WAS TAUNTED AND CALLED
"MAGPIE" BECAUSE OF IT.

WHO EDUCATED HERSELF,
BECAME CURATOR OF ONE
OF THE NATION'S LEADING
MUSEUMS...

... AND FOUND HERSELF
HAVING TO WATCH OVER
PRETTY THINGS SHE
COULD NEVER POSSESS.

YES... I FEEL
SORRY FOR HER,
SUPERMAN.

BUT I FEEL
MORE SORRY FOR
HER VICTIMS.

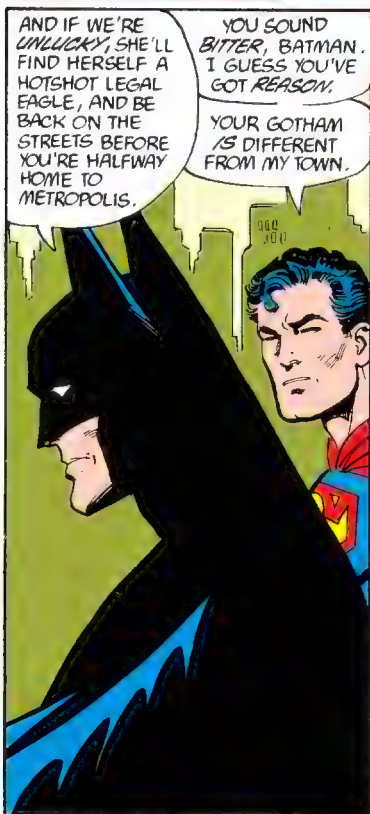


TWENTY MINUTES LATER...

THE POLICE RESPONDED QUICKLY ENOUGH TO YOUR ANONYMOUS CALL, BATMAN.

THERE SHE GOES, UNDER CUSTODY.

IF GOTHAM IS LUCKY, THEY'LL PUT HER IN A NICE, SAFE PADDED CELL OUT AT ARKHAM ASYLUM.



AND IF WE'RE UNLUCKY, SHE'LL FIND HERSELF A HOTSHOT LEGAL EAGLE, AND BE BACK ON THE STREETS BEFORE YOU'RE HALFWAY HOME TO METROPOLIS.

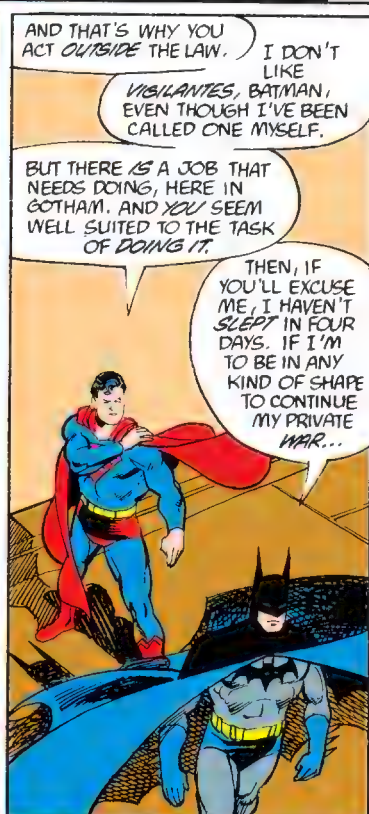
YOU SOUND BITTER, BATMAN. I GUESS YOU'VE GOT REASON.

YOUR GOTHAM IS DIFFERENT FROM MY TOWN.



YES.) AND MAGPIE IS JUST THE TIP OF THE GARBAGE PILE, SUPERMAN. A GARBAGE PILE THAT REACHES FROM THE LOWEST SEWERS...

...TO THE HIGHEST OFFICES OF CITY HALL.



AND THAT'S WHY YOU ACT OUTSIDE THE LAW.

I DON'T LIKE VIGILANTES, BATMAN, EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN CALLED ONE MYSELF.

BUT THERE IS A JOB THAT NEEDS DOING, HERE IN GOTHAM. AND YOU SEEM WELL SUITED TO THE TASK OF DOING IT.

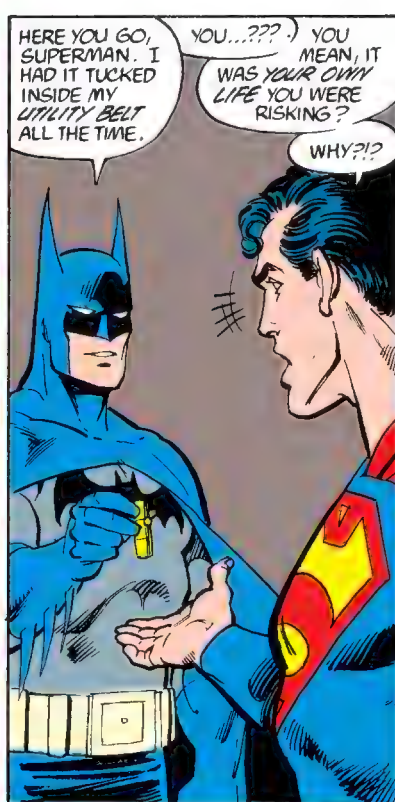
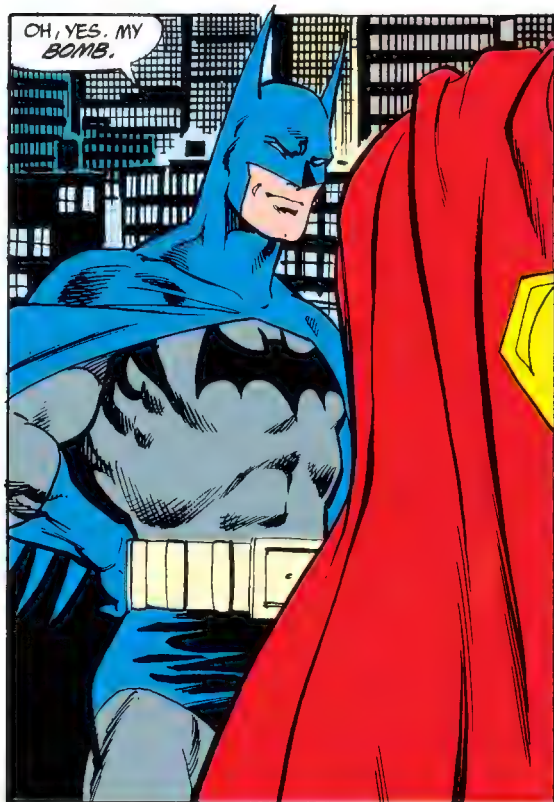
THEN, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I HAVEN'T SLEPT IN FOUR DAYS. IF I'M TO BE IN ANY KIND OF SHAPE TO CONTINUE MY PRIVATE WAR...



NOT SO FAST, BATMAN.

WE STILL HAVE THE MATTER OF AN INNOCENT LIFE YOU'VE PLACED IN JEOPARDY.







CHANTAL D'AULNIS, VP-Business Affairs • LILLIAN LASERSON, VP & General Counsel • SEYMOUR MILES, VP-Associate Publisher • BOB ROZAKIS, Executive Director-Production

"--HE EVER HIRED
THAT PWEEB."

HERO

SUPERMAN: YEAR ONE

THANK HEAVEN
THIS HIJACKING MADE
JAPANESE RADIO OR
I'D HAVE GOTTEN HERE
TOO LATE.

LOOK!
UP IN THE
SKY!

CAREFUL NOW,
GOT TO STOP THE
TRAIN...

...BUT NOT SO
ABRUPTLY THAT
IT JUMPS THE
TRACKS.

LOUISE SIMONSON: STORY
JOHN PAUL LEON: PENCILLER
DENNIS JANKE: INKER

TODD KLEIN: LETTERER
GLENN WHITMORE: COLORIST

CHRIS DUFFY: ASST. EDITOR
MIKE CARLIN: EDITOR

SUPERMAN CREATED BY
JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER



DONE!

WE'VE STOPPED!

THANK GOD! WE'RE SAVED!

NOW... FOR THE HITACKERS.



DON'T COUNT ON LEAVING, PEOPLE!

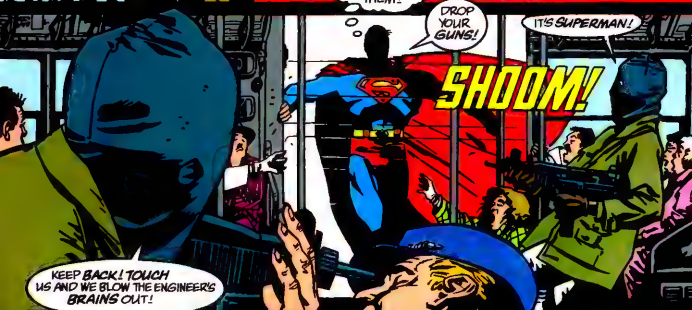
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!

THANK HEAVEN X-RAY VISION...

...GIVES ME STEALTH INFORMATION-GATHERING CAPABILITY!

WOULDN'T WANT TO PANIC THE TERRORISTS INTO DOING SOMETHING STUPID...

...UNTIL I'M THERE TO STOP THEM!



DROP YOUR GUNS!

IT'S SUPERMAN!

SHOOM!

KEEP BACK! TOUCH US AND WE BLOW THE ENGINEER'S BRAINS OUT!



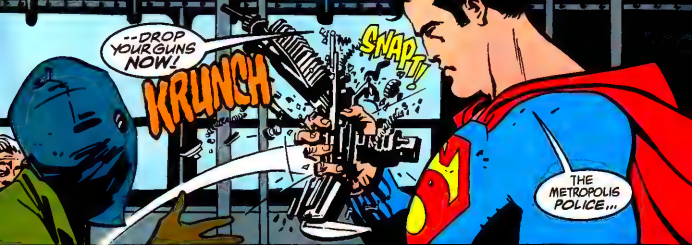
I SAID--

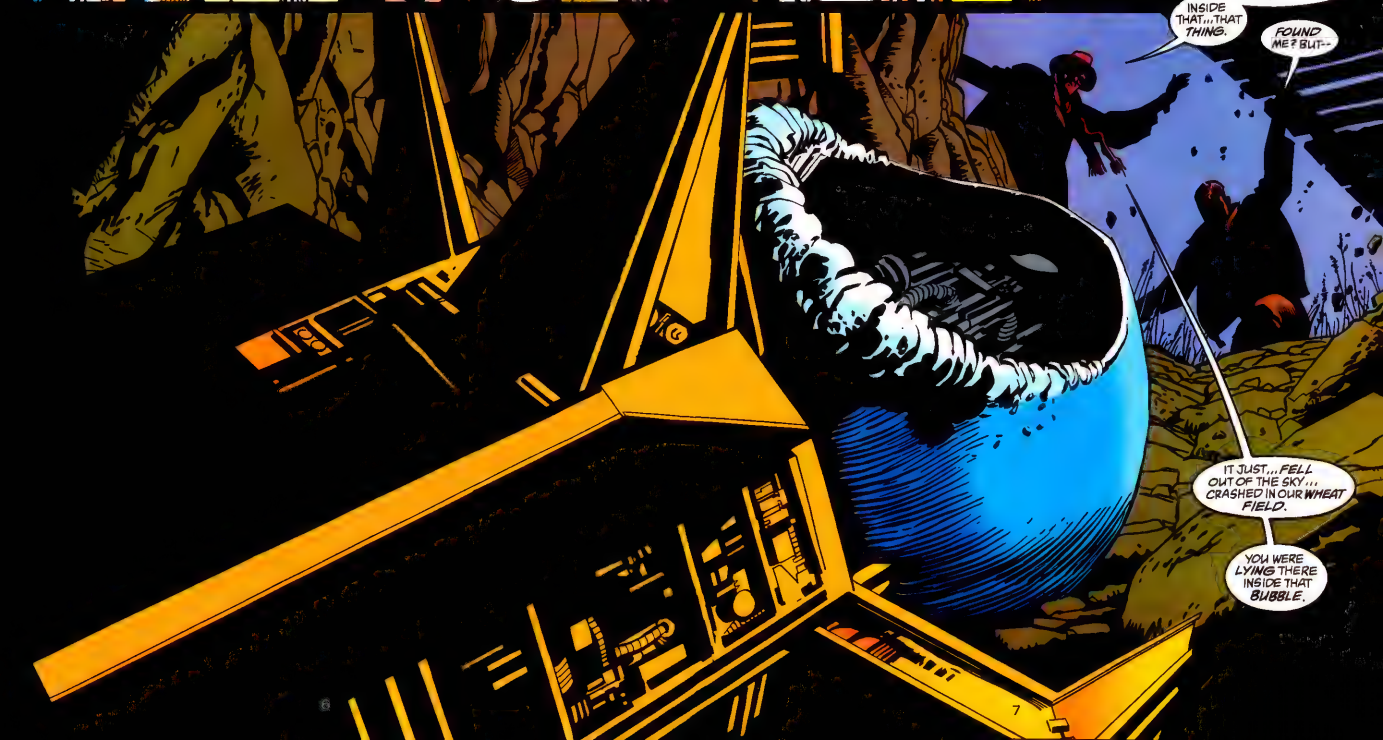
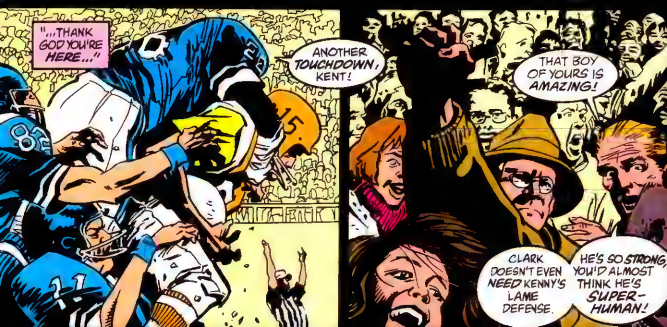


YOW! HOT!



HE SHOOTS HEAT FROM HIS EYES?!!





AT FIRST YOUR
MA AND ME KEPT
IT **SECRET**
CAUSE WE WERE
WORRIED...

...SCARED SOME-
ONE WOULD COME
AND TAKE YOU
FROM US.

THEN... WELL,
AFTER A WHILE,
IT JUST DIDN'T
SEEM TO **MATTER**.

YOU
MEAN... I'M
ADOPTED?

IN A WAY, I GUESS. WHEN YOUR
POWERS CAME... BIT BY BIT...

...WE DECIDED
WE HAD TO TELL
YOU THE **TRUTH**.

WE DON'T
KNOW **WHERE**
THAT... THAT
ROCKET CAME
FROM.

OR **WHY** YOU'RE
THE WAY YOU ARE.

... DIZZY...

WELL, THAT'S
ENOUGH FOR
NOW.

EVEN A FELLA
WITH YOUR CONSTITUTION
CAN TAKE JUST SO MANY
SHOCKS IN ONE DAY.

COME
ON...

"...LET'S GET BACK
HOME TO MA."

...HOME...

FOR ONCE,
KENT, THIS IS MY
SUPERMAN
STORY.

HUH?

HE SAVED A
TRAINLOAD OF
PEOPLE FROM
HIJACKING
TERRORISTS AND
I HAVE IT!

PICTURES
AND ALL.

DON'T EVEN
THINK ABOUT
GETTING YOUR
BYLINE ON
IT.

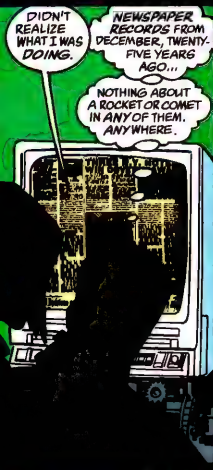
WHAT'RE
YOU DOING,
ANYWAY?



WHAT ARE YOU SCANNING THAT MICROFILM FOR?

WHAT ARE YOU, KENT, SOME KIND OF SPEED-READER?

NAH. JUST... DAYDREAMING, I GUESS.



DIDN'T REALIZE WHAT I WAS DOING.

NEWSPAPER RECORDS FROM DECEMBER, TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO...

NOTHING ABOUT A ROCKET OR COMET IN ANY OF THEM. ANYWHERE.

TRAVELED THE WORLD WHEN I WAS YOUNGER.

FAR AS I CAN TELL, THERE'S NO ONE LIKE ME...



JUST CAME IN OVER THE WIRES, GET THIS!

ANOTHER COSTUMED GUY HAS APPEARED IN GOTHAM CITY!

LIKE SUPERMAN?



DON'T KNOW. WHETHER HE'S LIKE SUPERMAN... WHETHER GOOD OR BAD...

EXCUSE ME, LOIS.

...BUT WHATEVER HE IS, HE CALLS HIMSELF...

"--BATMAN."

SPILL IT,
BULL. TELL ME
WHAT YOU
KNOW...

...OR NEXT
TIME, YOU WON'T
HAVE WORKING
LESS TO RUN
AWAY WITH!

WHAT
THE--?!?

NEWS REPORTS
WERE UNSURE IF
YOU'RE A VILLAIN
OR HERO.

I GUESS NOW
WE KNOW.

I'M
TAKING YOU
IN.

SUPER-
MAN!
YOU SELF-
RIGHTEOUS
FOOL!

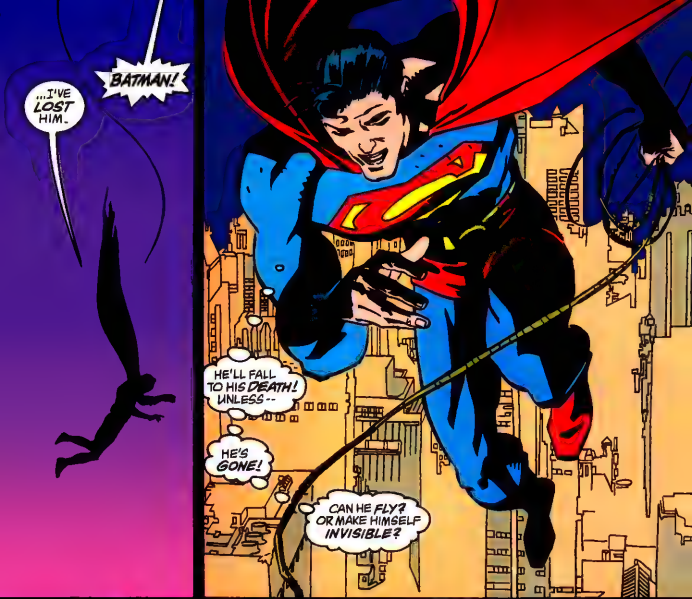
I HAVE
REASON
TO BELIEVE
THAT "POOR
VICTIM"...

...WHO HAS
KILLED AT
LEAST TEN
PEOPLE AND
NOW THREATENS
OTHERS.

I WAS
TRYING TO
STAMPEDE
HIM INTO
SCURRYING
FOR HIS
LAIR...

...BUT
THANKS TO
YOU...

...IS THE MAIN
HENCHMAN OF A MAD
BOMBER AND JEWEL
THIEF CALLED THE
MAGPIE...



...I'VE
LOST
HIM.

BATMAN!

HE'LL FALL
TO HIS DEATH!
UNLESS--

HE'S
GONE!

CAN HE FLY?
OR MAKE HIMSELF
INVISIBLE?



DOES HE HAVE
POWERS LIKE MY
OWN?

BADDOOM!

EXPLOSION!

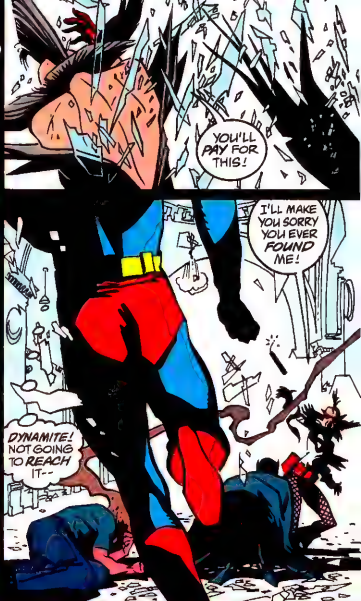


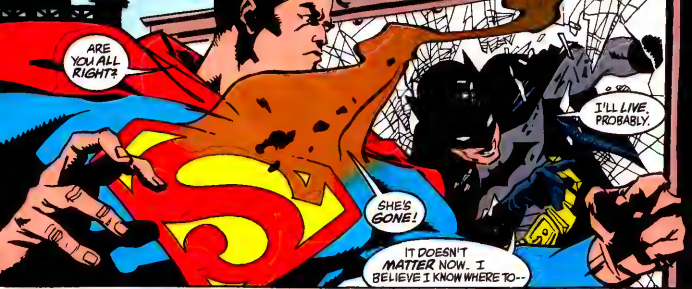
FROM THE
GOTHAM
MUSEUM OF
ANTIQUITIES!

IT'S THE BATMAN!
HE'S HERE BEFORE
ME!

YOU GOT
THE BATMAN'S
ATTENTION,
BULL.

HE'D HAVE
FOLLOWED YOU--
BUT THE TRAIL HAS
JUST GROWN--





ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

I'LL LIVE,
PROBABLY.

SHE'S
GONE!

IT DOESN'T
MATTER NOW. I
BELIEVE I KNOW WHERE TO--



"--FIND
HER!"

"WE MUST LOOK IN
THE COLLECTION OF
EGYPTIAN ARTIFACTS."

GOT
YOU!



AS I DEDUCED,
WITHOUT THE WIG I
RECOGNIZE HER.

WHO IS
SHE?

MARGARET PYE...
THE MUSEUM'S
CURATOR OF
ANTIQUITIES.

SHE'S BEEN IN THE
NEWS OCCASIONALLY.

SURROUNDED BY
BEAUTIFUL THINGS...
WANTED THEM...TO
BE MINE...



"...ALL
MINE."

SHE'S
MAD.

AND
DANGEROUS.

SHE'LL END UP
IN ARKHAM ASYLUM
...IF WE'RE LUCKY.
IF NOT--

AND SHE'S
JUST THE TOP OF
GOTHAM'S GARBAGE
HEAP...

...THAT REACHES
FROM THE SEWERS
TO CITY HALL.



YOU ACT
OUTSIDE THE
LAW, BECAUSE
HERE THE LAW IS
HELPLESS...?

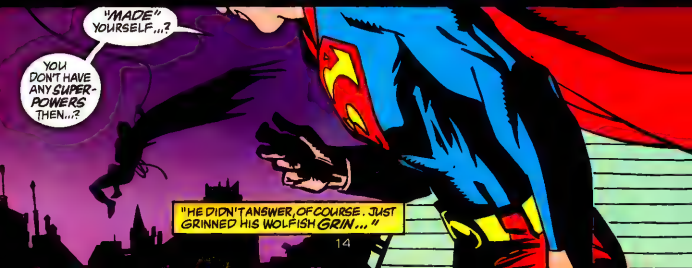
I DON'T
NORMALLY APPROVE
OF VIGILANTES. BUT
HERE IN GOTHAM...



I KNOW
THIS CITY.

AND I'VE
MADE MYSELF
GOOD
ENOUGH...

...TO FACE
IT ON ITS OWN
TERMS.



"MADE"
YOURSELF...?

YOU
DON'T HAVE
ANY SUPER-
POWERS
THEN...?

"HE DIDN'T ANSWER, OF COURSE. JUST
GRINNED HIS WOLFISH GRIN..."



...AND LEAPT
OFF INTO THE
DARKNESS.

GOTHAM IS
A DARKER PLACE
THAN METROPOLIS,
MA.

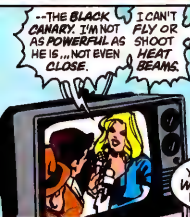


CORRUPT
FROM TOP TO
BOTTOM. MAYBE
IT NEEDS A...A
DARKER
HERO.

DARN.

I KNOW
THERE'S MORE
MAYONNAISE
UP HERE
SOMEWHERE...

IT'S BECAUSE
OF SUPERMAN'S
EXAMPLE THAT I
HAVE CHOSEN TO
BECOME...



--THE BLACK
CANARY. I'M NOT
AS POWERFUL AS
HE IS...NOT EVEN
CLOSE.

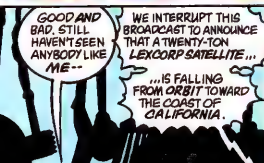
I CAN'T
FLY OR
SHOOT
HEAT
BEAMS.

BUT I AM AS
FIRMLY ON THE SIDE
OF RIGHT AS HE
IS...

YEAH, I'M
WATCHING
IT, MA.



SEEMS LIKE THERE
ARE MORE PEOPLE
PUTTING ON COSTUMES
EVERY DAY.

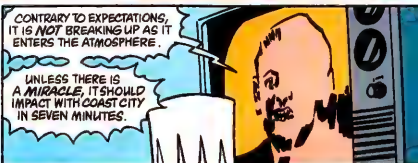


GOOD AND
BAD. STILL
HAVEN'T SEEN
ANYBODY LIKE
ME--

WE INTERRUPT THIS
BROADCAST TO ANNOUNCE
THAT A TWENTY-TON
LEXCORP SATELLITE...

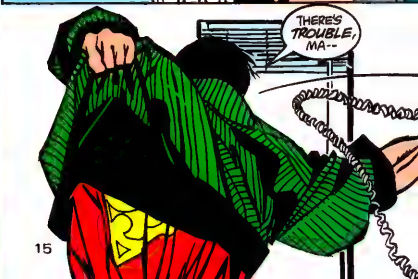
...IS FALLING
FROM ORBIT TOWARD
THE COAST OF
CALIFORNIA.

MA...
HOLD ON A
SECOND.



CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS,
IT IS NOT BREAKING UP AS IT
ENTERS THE ATMOSPHERE.

UNLESS THERE IS
A MIRACLE, IT SHOULD
IMPACT WITH COAST CITY
IN SEVEN MINUTES.



THERE'S
TROUBLE,
MA--

"--GOTTA FLY."

LOOKS LIKE SO
MANY PEOPLE ARE
CROWDED ONTO THE
CALIFORNIA COAST
BELOW...

...IT'S A
MIRACLE THE
COUNTRY DOESN'T
JUST TIP WESTERLY
AND SLIDE INTO
THE PACIFIC.

FALLING SATELLITE'S
BEGINNING TO GLOW WHITE
HOT AS IT ENTERS THE
ATMOSPHERE.

BIG SUCKER!
IT WOULD MAKE
QUITE A DENT IN
COAST CITY!

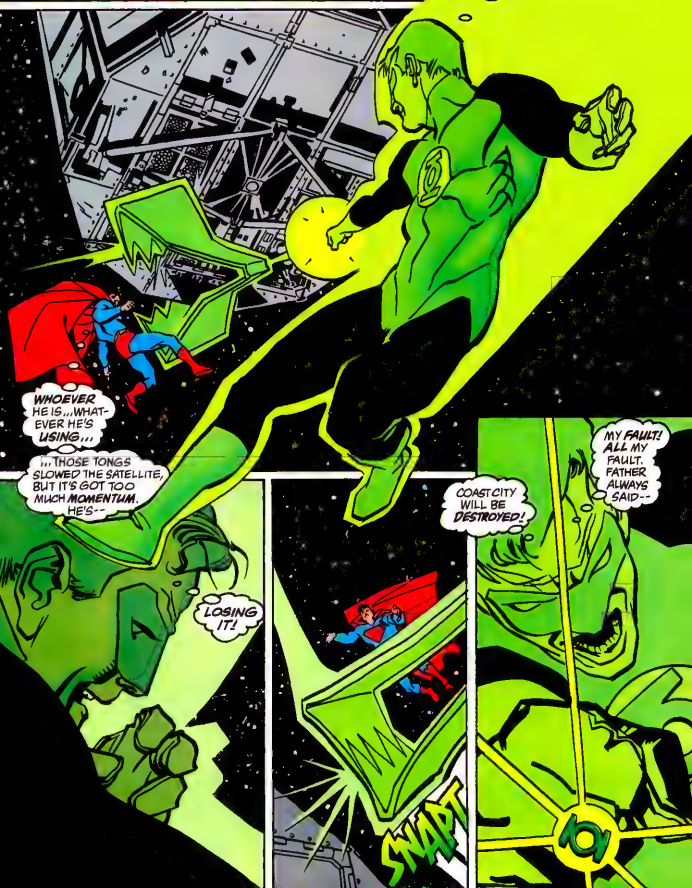
ALMOST
GOT IT--

WHAT
THE--?!?



A GREEN GLOW?
WHERE'S IT COMING FROM?

GOT IT.
NOW IF I CAN JUST HOLD IT...



WHOEVER HE IS...WHAT-
EVER HE'S USING...

...THOSE TONGS SLOWED THE SATELLITE,
BUT IT'S GOT TOO MUCH MOMENTUM.
HE'S--

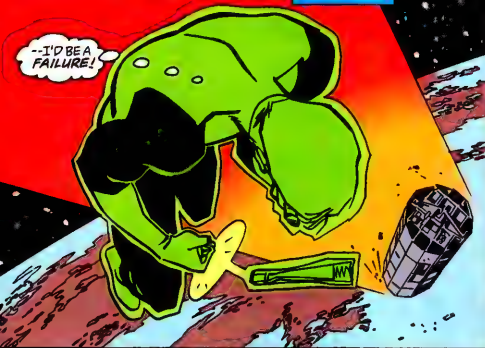
LOSING IT!

COAST CITY WILL BE DESTROYED!

MY FAULT!
ALL MY FAULT.
FATHER ALWAYS SAID--

SNAPT







YOU'RE
SUPERMAN?

I AM. AND
YOU?

I'M CALLED...
GREEN
LANTERN.

I'M PRETTY
NEW AT THIS.
STILL...GETTING
USED TO THE
RING.



IT'S PRETTY
POWERFUL.

IT WAS GIVEN
TO ME BY A DYING
ALIEN. AS MY
POP WOULD HAVE
SAID...

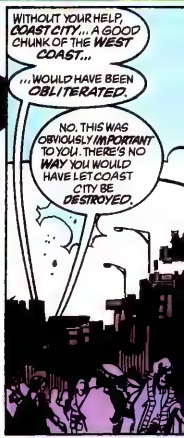
...I SHOULD
HAVE KNOWN BETTER
THAN TO GET TRICKY
WITH IT.



WHERE WILL YOU
PUT IT DOWN?

BEACH
SEEMS AS GOOD
A PLACE AS ANY.

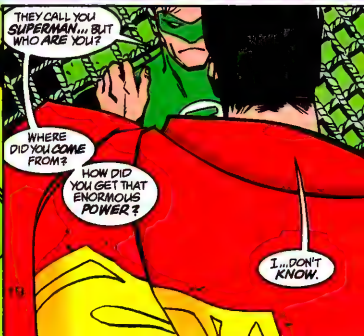
THANKS
FOR SLOWING
IT, BY THE
WAY.



WITHOUT YOUR HELP,
COAST CITY... A GOOD
CHUNK OF THE WEST
COAST...

...WOULD HAVE BEEN
OBLITERATED.

NO. THIS WAS
OBVIOUSLY IMPORTANT
TO YOU. THERE'S NO
WAY YOU WOULD
HAVE LET COAST
CITY BE
DESTROYED.



THEY CALL YOU
SUPERMAN... BUT
WHO ARE YOU?

WHERE
DID YOU COME
FROM?

HOW DID
YOU GET THAT
ENORMOUS
POWER?

I...DON'T
KNOW.



THERE
THEY
ARE!

JOHN KRYGER,
ROCKLAND NEWS!
HOW--

IT'S GETTING
PRETTY NOISY
DOWN HERE.

COME ON! LET'S
GET UP WHERE WE
CAN TALK.



YOU DON'T
KNOW WHERE
YOU CAME
FROM?

NO. I TELL MYSELF...
WHERE I CAME FROM
DOESN'T MATTER.

WHAT MATTERS IS THE
GOOD I CAN DO WITH THE
POWERS I'VE BEEN GIVEN.
BUT--

I HAD THOUGHT
I WAS THE FIRST.
WAS A BIT DISAP-
POINTED TO LEARN
I WASN'T.

BUT THAT
DOESN'T MATTER
NOW.

WHAT MATTERS IS
THAT, MAYBE I CAN
THANK HIM BY
LETTING HIM KNOW
WHO HE IS.

ALL I NEED
IS FOR THE RING
TO SCAN HIM...
NO!

THE RING
INFORMS ME HE'S
THE LAST
SURVIVOR OF
THE DESTROYED
PLANET KRYPTON.



SUPERMAN HAS JUST
HELPED ME SAVE EVERY-
THING I HOLD DEAR.

TELLING HIM THAT
WOULD BE NO THANKS
AT ALL.

IF YOU EVER
NEED MY HELP,
SUPERMAN, DON'T
HESITATE TO ASK
FOR IT.



I PROMISE YOU...
IF WILL MEANS ANYTHING,
I'LL GET BETTER AT THIS.

JUST KNOW...THAT
I'LL ALWAYS...





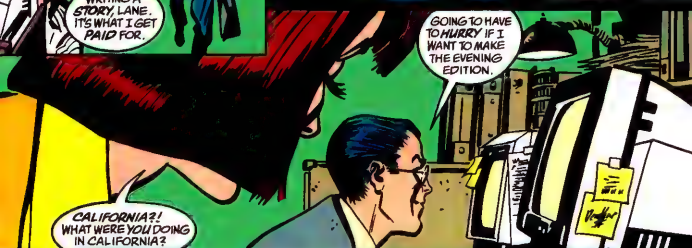
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, KENT?

WRITING A STORY, LANE. IT'S WHAT I GET PAID FOR.



WHAT STORY?

OH... SUPERMAN'S MEETING WITH A CALIFORNIA HERO CALLED GREEN LANTERN.



GOING TO HAVE TO HURRY IF I WANT TO MAKE THE EVENING EDITION.

CALIFORNIA?! WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN CALIFORNIA?



WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I WAS IN CALIFORNIA?

SUPERMAN TOLD YOU, DIDN'T HE?

AND IT WAS CONFIRMED BY WITNESSES.



YOU MAY HAVE THIS SUPERMAN INTERVIEW, BUT THE NEXT ONE WILL BE MINE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?



WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW...?



I'M ON ASSIGNMENT OUT OF TOWN FOR A WHILE, KENT--



"...CATCH YOU LATER," SHE SNARLED, AND SHE WAS OUT THE DOOR.

LOIS LANE HATES MY GUTS.

HAS A RIVALRY GOING WITH ME OVER SUPERMAN STORIES.

EVEN THOUGH I'M SUPERMAN, PA, AND I'M THERE, I'D SAY WE'RE NECK AND NECK.

HOW DOES SHE MANAGE THAT?

SHE'S VERY SMART AND EXTREMELY STUBBORN.



AND BEAUTIFUL TOO...?

I GUESS.

WE'LL FINISH UP THE DISHES, SON.

IT'S TIME YOU WERE GETTING BACK TO METROPOLIS.



SKY LOOKS SORT OF... ODD, PA.

BEEN ODD FOR A WHILE... OFF AND ON.



FREAK SNOW STORM IN REED COUNTY IS ACTUALLY DESTROYING CROPS.

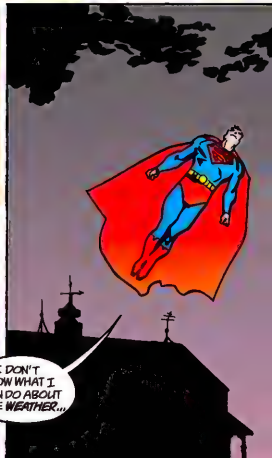
IN REED COUNTY?



DOWN AROUND ASHTON, WE'RE BEGINNING TO GET SOME OF THE FALL OUT. WHY?

IT'S THE MIDDLE OF SUMMER, PA.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I CAN DO ABOUT THE WEATHER...



"...BUT IT WOULDN'T
HURT TO CHECK IT
OUT ANYWAY."

SNOW... IN
AUGUST? THIS
IS FREAKY.

THERE'S ASHTON.
TOWN SEEMS ALMOST
DESERTED.

GUESS I
DON'T BLAME
THE RESIDENTS.

HA HA
HAHAHA!
A BLAST OF ICY
WIND HERE--

--A FLURRY
THERE! AND MY
GOAL IS NEARLY
MET!

WHO--?

THE WEATHER
WIZARD, AT YOUR
SERVICE! AND YOU
ARE SUPERMAN?

KARACKLE!

I THOUGHT
SO---! PITY!



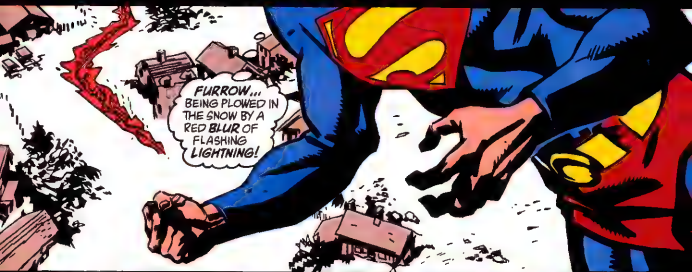
**KZZZZAK!
BZZT!**

GREAT SCOTT!
THIS GUY CAN
CONTROL
WEATHER!

LIGHTNING'S
STOPPED--AT
LEAST FOR AN
INSTANT.

PROBABLY CHECKING
THE EFFECTIVENESS
OF HIS BARRAGE...

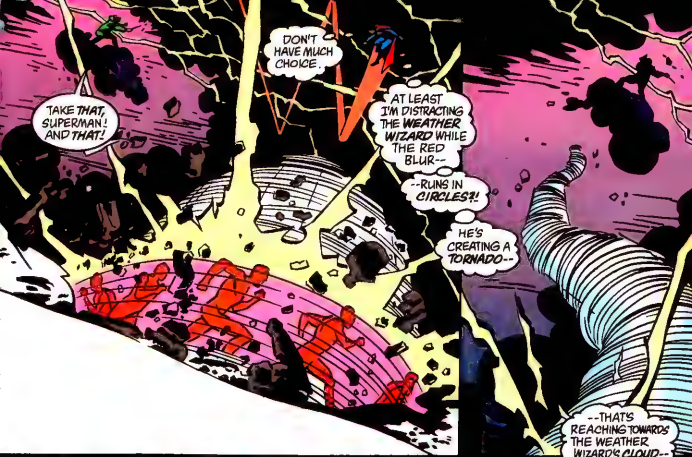
WHAT'S THAT?



FURROW...
BEING PLOWED IN
THE SNOW BY A
RED BLUR OF
FLASHING
LIGHTNING!

NOT BAD,
IF I DO SAY SO
MYSELF!





TAKE THAT,
SUPERMAN!
AND THAT!

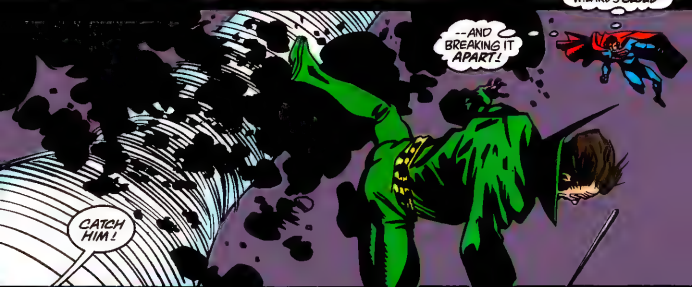
DON'T
HAVE MUCH
CHOICE.

AT LEAST
I'M DISTRACTING
THE WEATHER
WIZARD WHILE
THE RED
BLUR--

--RUNS IN
CIRCLES?!

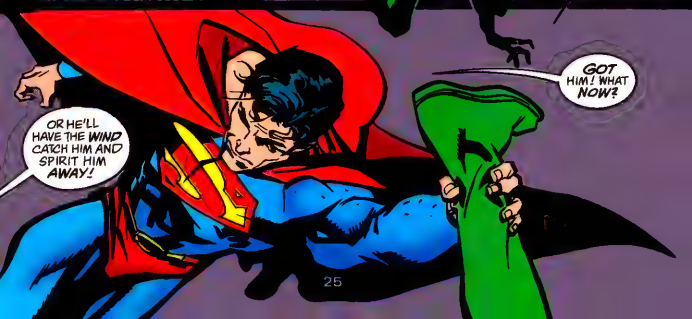
HE'S
CREATING A
TORNADO--

--THAT'S
REACHING TOWARDS
THE WEATHER
WIZARD'S CLOUD--



--AND
BREAKING IT
APART!

CATCH
HIM!



OR HE'LL
HAVE THE WIND
CATCH HIM AND
SPIRIT HIM
AWAY!

GOT
HIM! WHAT
NOW?



TURN HIM
OVER TO THE
AUTHORITIES,
OF COURSE.

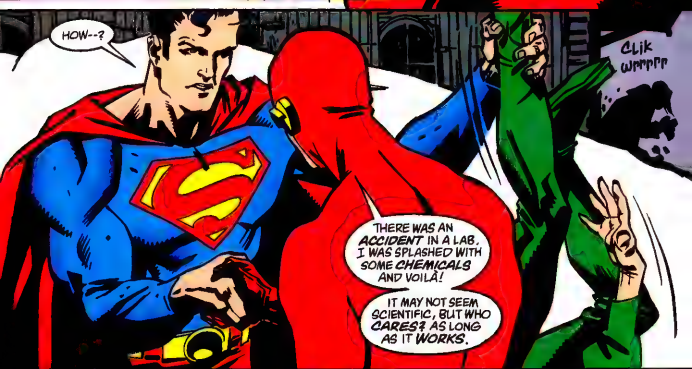
YOU'RE
SUPERMAN,
AREN'T YOU? I
CALL MYSELF
THE FLASH.



APPROPRIATE.
I DIDN'T THINK ANY-
THING COULD MOVE
THAT FAST!

ARE YOU
SURE YOU'RE
HUMAN?

LAST TIME
I LOOKED!



HOW--?

THERE WAS AN
ACCIDENT IN A LAB.
I WAS SPLASHED WITH
SOME CHEMICALS
AND VOILÀ!

IT MAY NOT SEEM
SCIENTIFIC, BUT WHO
CARES? AS LONG
AS IT WORKS.

CLIK
WRRRR



CLIK
WRRRR

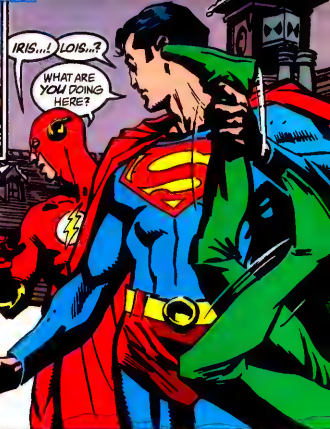
HA! KENT, EAT
YOUR HEART
OUT.

HEY!
WHO ARE
YOU???

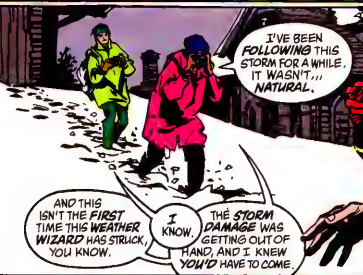
CLIK
WRRRR



BACK OFF!
THIS IS MY
STORY.



IRIS... LOIS...?
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?



I'VE BEEN
FOLLOWING THIS
STORM FOR A WHILE.
IT WASN'T...
NATURAL.

AND THIS
ISN'T THE FIRST
TIME THIS WEATHER
WIZARD HAS STRUCK,
YOU KNOW.

I
KNOW.

THE STORM
DAMAGE WAS
GETTING OUT OF
HAND, AND I KNEW
YOU'D HAVE TO COME



WHAT I DIDN'T
COUNT ON WAS
THE FLASH
BEING HERE,
TOO!

AND I
DIDN'T EXPECT
SUPERMAN.



WHY DID YOU
DO IT, WEATHER WIZARD?
WHAT DID YOU HOPE
TO ACCOMPLISH?



THERE'S A BANK
HERE SOMEWHERE,
BURIED UNDER THESE
MOUNDS OF SNOW.

I EXPECT HE WAS
PLANNING TO DRIVE
EVERYONE AWAY...
THEN ROB IT.



YOU CAUSED SEVERAL
MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH
OF PROPERTY DAMAGE SO
YOU COULD STEAL...

...THIRTY-THOUSAND
FROM THE BANK?!!

STANDARD OPERATING
PROCEDURE. THIS GUY'S
GOT SORT OF A...

"...ONE-TRACK MIND."

HURRICANE CAME UP SO SUDDENLY... AND IS BEHAVING SO ODDLY...

...IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT IT'S NATURAL IN ORIGIN. BUT THE WEATHER WIZARD IS IN JAIL--

H-HELP!

SOMEONE TRAPPED BENEATH A FALLEN TREE, AND BY THE LOOK OF WHAT HE'S WEARING, I'D SAY--

YOU'RE AQUAMAN, AREN'T YOU?

AND YOU'RE... SUPERMAN, RIGHT? THANKS, BUT WHY--?

THE FLASH SUGGESTED I FIND YOU. BUT THIS STORM--

I'M THE REASON FOR THE STORM.

POSEIDON HAS BEEN CHASING ME HALFWAY ACROSS THE OCEAN.

I TOOK A MAJOR HIT AND WASHED UP HERE. HE'S ANGRY BECAUSE--

LISTEN, YOU BETTER SIT DOWN.

LET ME AT LEAST TRY TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS WEATHER. THEN I'LL BE BACK.

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, YOU CAN TAKE ME TO A DESERT.

FORGET IT. FROM WHAT THE FLASH TOLD ME, YOU'D DIE THERE.

YOU THINK YOU CAN CONTROL THE WEATHER LIKE SOME KIND OF GOD? WELL, I'VE MET GODS--

MAYBE IF I FLY
COUNTER TO THE
WIND FUNNEL...?

DARN! THIS
SHOULD BE WORK-
ING... AT LEAST
THEORETICALLY.

GODS?!?
MAN, I THINK
AQUAMAN MUST HAVE
HIT HIS HEAD TOO
HARD.

BUT IT DOESN'T
SEEM TO EVEN BE
HELPING--

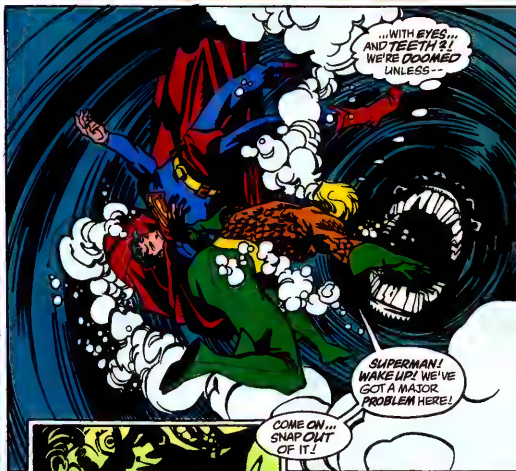
YIKES?!?
LOST CONTROL OF
MY FLIGHT! IS
THERE AN UP-
DRAFT OR--

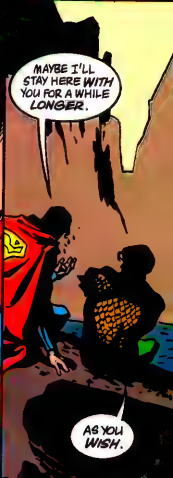
NO!
CAN'T HAVE
SEEN...

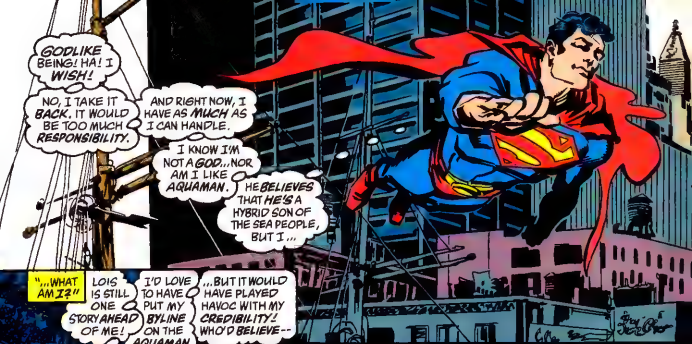
... I
SAW ...

... WHAT I
THOUGHT...

SPLAKT!







GODLIKE BEING! HA! I WISH!

NO, I TAKE IT BACK. IT WOULD BE TOO MUCH RESPONSIBILITY.

AND RIGHT NOW, I HAVE AS MUCH AS I CAN HANDLE.

I KNOW I'M NOT A GOD... NOR AM I LIKE AQUAMAN.

HE BELIEVES THAT HE'S A HYBRID SON OF THE SEA PEOPLE, BUT I...

"...WHAT AM I?"

LOIS IS STILL ONE STORY AHEAD OF ME!

I'D LOVE TO HAVE PUT MY BYLINE ON THE AQUAMAN STORY...

"...BUT IT WOULD HAVE PLAYED HAVOC WITH MY CREDIBILITY! WHO'D BELIEVE--"



A TERRIBLE FIRE IS RAGING...

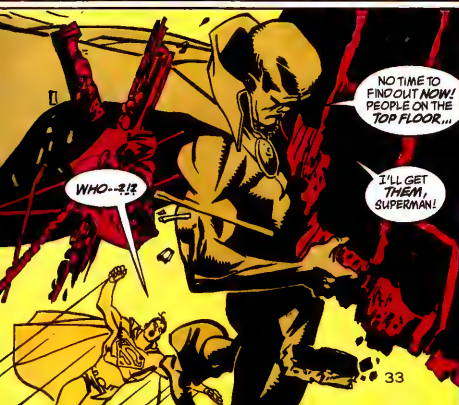
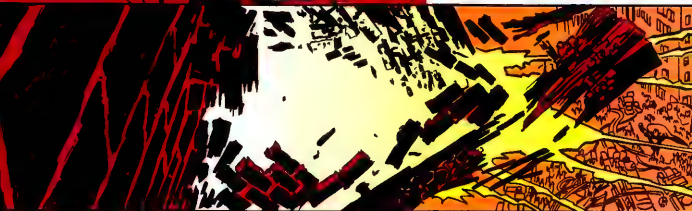
"...IN DENVER, COLORADO, CAUSED BY A GAS EXPLOSION..."

"...AND FED BY HIGH WINDS THAT HAVE REACHED ALMOST FORTY MILES AN HOUR..."



"...THE BLAZE IS WHIPPING THROUGH LEKAIRE, ONE OF DENVER'S TALLEST HIGH-RISES--"

LOOK! UP THERE! IT'S SUPERMAN!





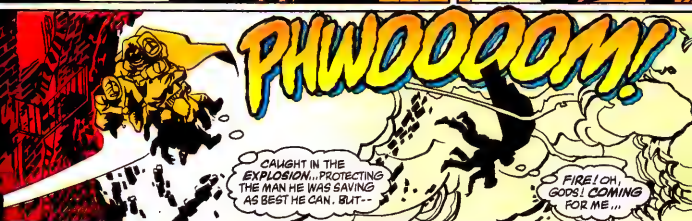
"...IN TROUBLE
DOWN BELOW!!"

HE WAS RIGHT!
BUT HOW DID HE
KNOW? DOES HE
HAVE X-RAY VISION?

HE HAS SUPER-
STRENGTH... HE
CAN FLY... BUT HE'S--



LOOK--
UP THERE!



PHWOOOOM!

CAUGHT IN THE
EXPLOSION... PROTECTING
THE MAN HE WAS SAVING
AS BEST HE CAN. BUT--

FIRE! OH,
GODS! COMING
FOR ME...



OVERWHELMING
ME. GOT TO--



--GET
AWAY!

SOMEHOW HE
HE CHANGED
HIS SHAPE!



BUT...TO
WHAT?!?



HE'S CHANGED
BACK AGAIN.

WHAT
IS HE?

IF I CAN
FIND HIM AFTER
THIS IS OVER--

--"I'LL ASK HIM."

EARLIER... BEFORE
THE FIRE WAS OUT... I
THOUGHT I SAW--

YOU DID, SUPERMAN.
MY NAME IS J'ONN J'ONZZ.
I... AM FROM MARS.

THE PLANET
MARS? YOU CAME
HERE IN A ROCKET?



NO, THERE WAS
A TELEPORTATION
MACHINE.

ABOUT WHAT YOU
SAW, AMONG OTHER
THINGS, I AM A
SHAPE SHIFTER.

WHEN THE FIRE
OVERWHELMED ME,
I LOST CONTROL...
JUST FOR AN
INSTANT...

...AND REVEALED
MY TRUE MARTIAN
FORM.



THERE WERE REPORTERS. YOU MAY NOT BE
ABLE TO RETURN TO OBSCURITY.

THAT
IS WHAT I FEAR
MOST.



BUT PERHAPS
SUPERMAN IS
RIGHT.

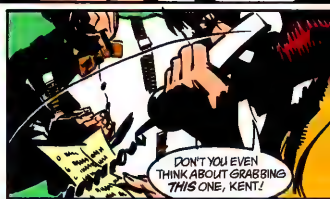
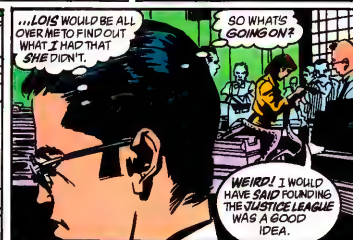
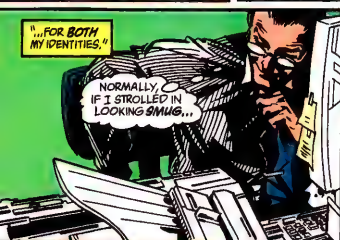
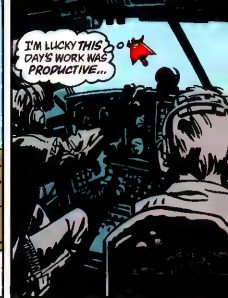
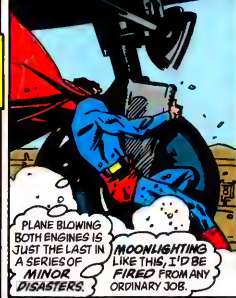
HE DID NO
MORE THAN EXPRESS
CURIOSITY WHEN
CONFRONTED BY ME.



THE WORLD IS
CHANGING, PERHAPS
SECRECY IS NO LONGER
SO IMPORTANT.

AND WORKING
TOGETHER, WE
ACCOMPLISHED MORE
THAN EITHER OF US
COULD HAVE ALONE.

I'VE HEARD
ABOUT OTHERS LIKE
ME... AND SUPERMAN.
I WONDER...



"...WHERE DID HE GO NOW?"

ALASKAN PENINSULA BELOW ME. BUT WHERE--?

UP AHEAD...
SURROUNDED BY A
STRANGE NIMBUS
OF LIGHT.



"LOIS WAS
RIGHT, THE
JUSTICE
LEAGUE ARE
FIGHTING
AMONG THEM-
SELVES."

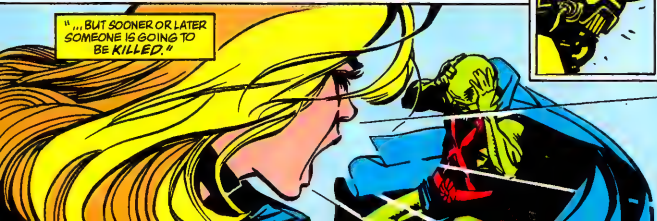


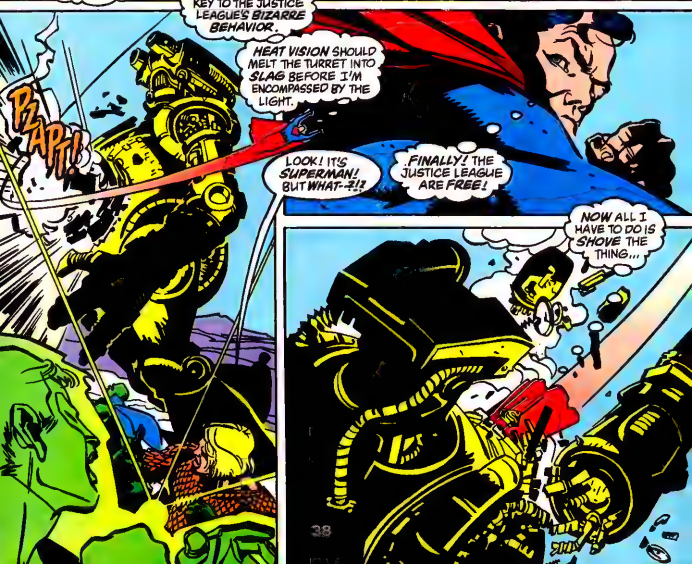
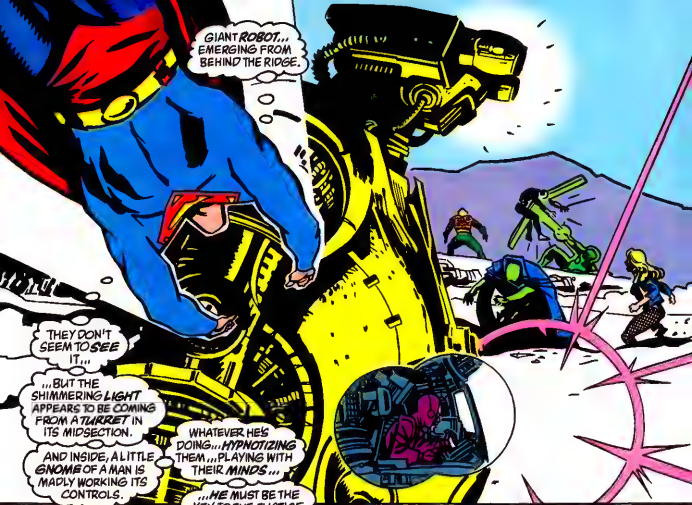
"BUT THERE
SEEMS TO BE
NO RHYME OR
REASON TO
THEIR ATTACKS."

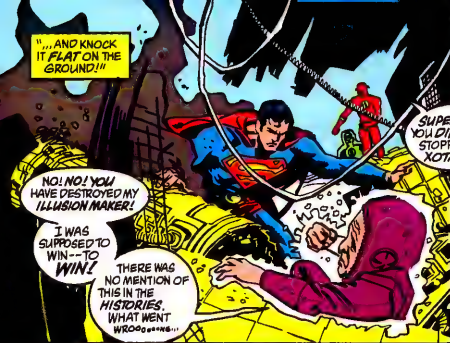
"THEY'RE STRIKING
AT EACH OTHER
RANDOMLY..."



"...BUT SOONER OR LATER
SOMEONE IS GOING TO
BE KILLED."





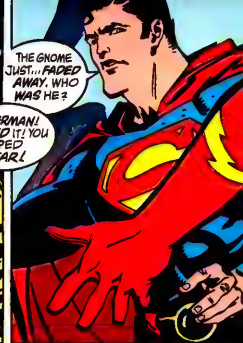


"...AND KNOCK IT FLAT ON THE GROUND!"

NO! NO! YOU HAVE DESTROYED MY ILLUSION MAKER!

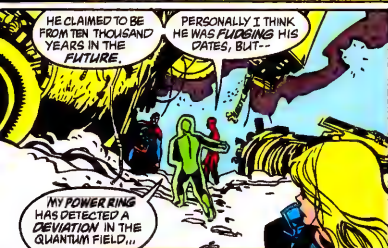
I WAS SUPPOSED TO WIN--TO WIN!

THERE WAS NO MENTION OF THIS IN THE HISTORIES. WHAT WENT WROO GAAH--!!



THE GNOME JUST... FADED AWAY. WHO WAS HE?

SUPERMAN! YOU DID IT! YOU STOPPED XOTAR!



HE CLAIMED TO BE FROM TEN THOUSAND YEARS IN THE FUTURE.

PERSONALLY I THINK HE WAS FUDGING HIS DATES, BUT--

MY POWER RING HAS DETECTED A DEVIATION IN THE QUANTUM FIELD...



...AND HAS TRACED XOTAR THROUGH IT.

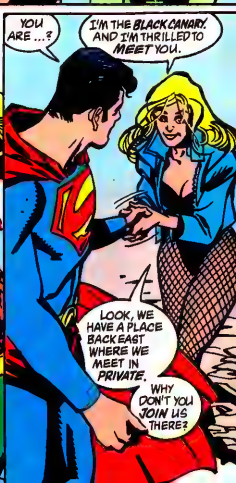
HE HAS GONE BACK TO HIS OWN TIME WHERE... GET THIS...



...HE BEAMED HIMSELF INTO THE HANDS OF HIS PERIOD'S POLICE.

THIS TIME TRAVEL BUSINESS GETS A LITTLE... CRAZY.

IT CAN WORK IF YOU MAKE IT.

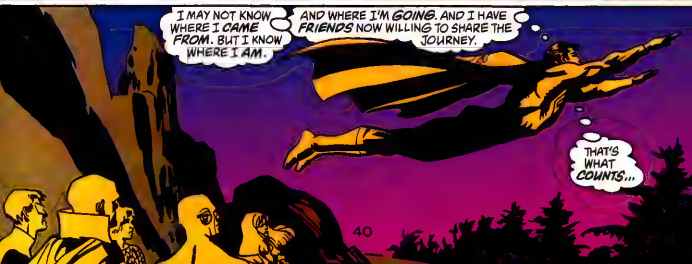


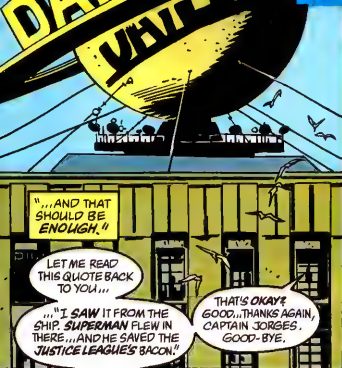
YOU ARE ...?

I'M THE BLACK CANARY. AND I'M THRILLED TO MEET YOU.

LOOK, WE HAVE A PLACE BACK EAST WHERE WE MEET IN PRIVATE.

WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US THERE?





"...AND THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH."

LET ME READ THIS QUOTE BACK TO YOU...

"...I SAW IT FROM THE SHIP. SUPERMAN FLEW IN THERE...AND HE SAVED THE JUSTICE LEAGUE'S BACON."

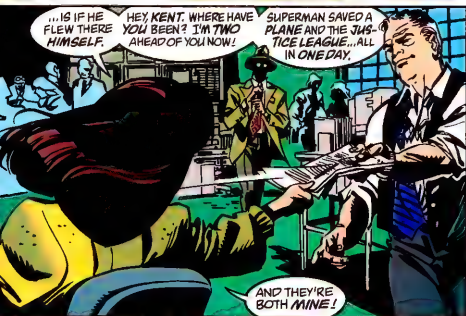
THAT'S OKAY? GOOD...THANKS AGAIN, CAPTAIN JORGES. GOOD-BYE.



SCORE ONE FOR CONNECTIONS!

DONE!

HERE YAGO, PERRY! THE ONLY WAY KENT CAN BEAT ME ON THIS ONE...



...IS IF HE FLEW THERE HIMSELF.

HEY, KENT. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? I'M TWO AHEAD OF YOU NOW!

SUPERMAN SAVED A PLANE AND THE JUSTICE LEAGUE...ALL IN ONE DAY.

AND THEY'RE BOTH MINE!



READ 'EM...ON THE FRONT PAGE UNDER MY BYLINE, OF COURSE...AND WEEP!

BUT--

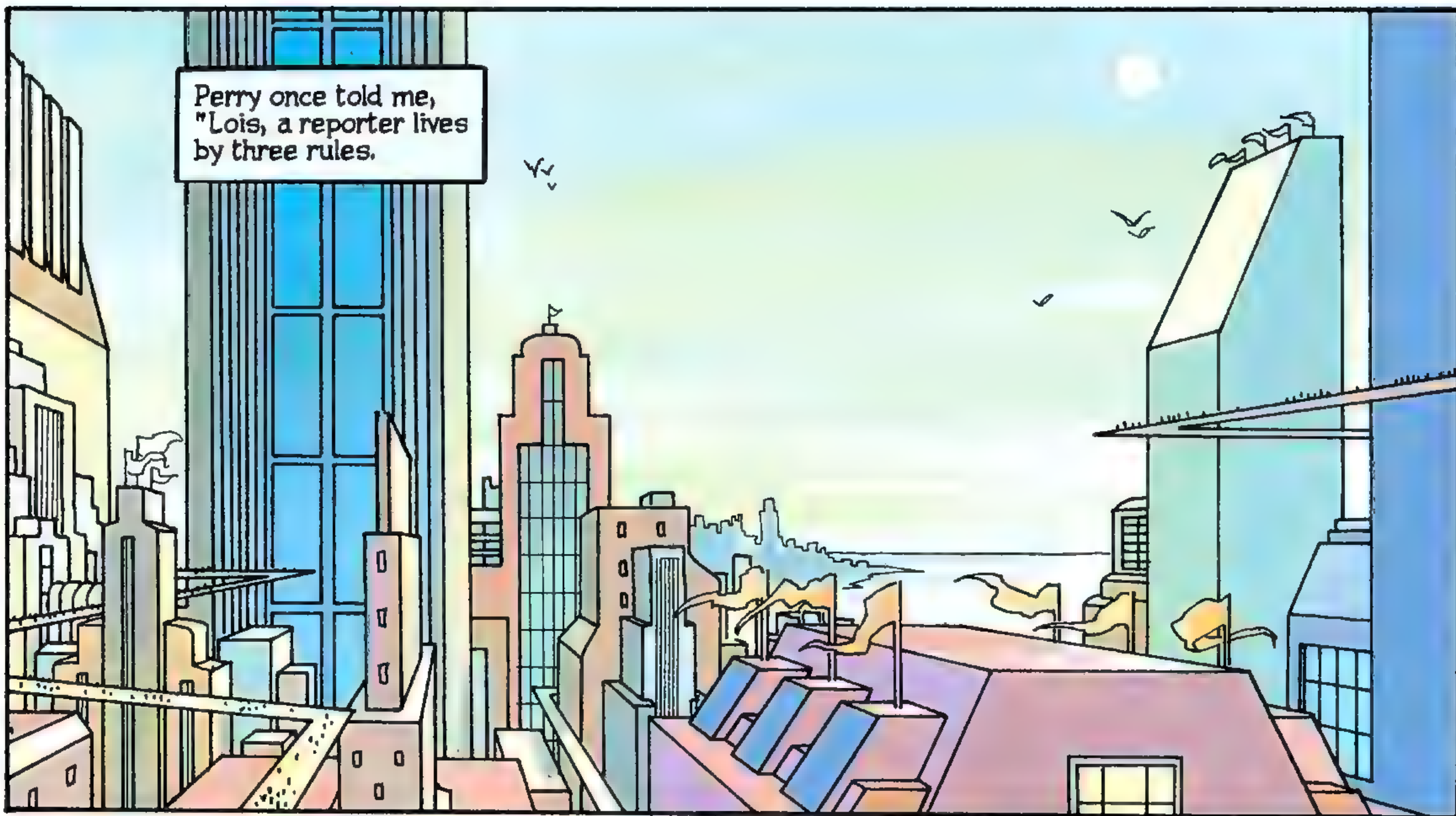


THAT'S RIGHT! I HAD TO LEAVE BEFORE I WROTE UP THE CHOPPER INCIDENT. OH WELL...

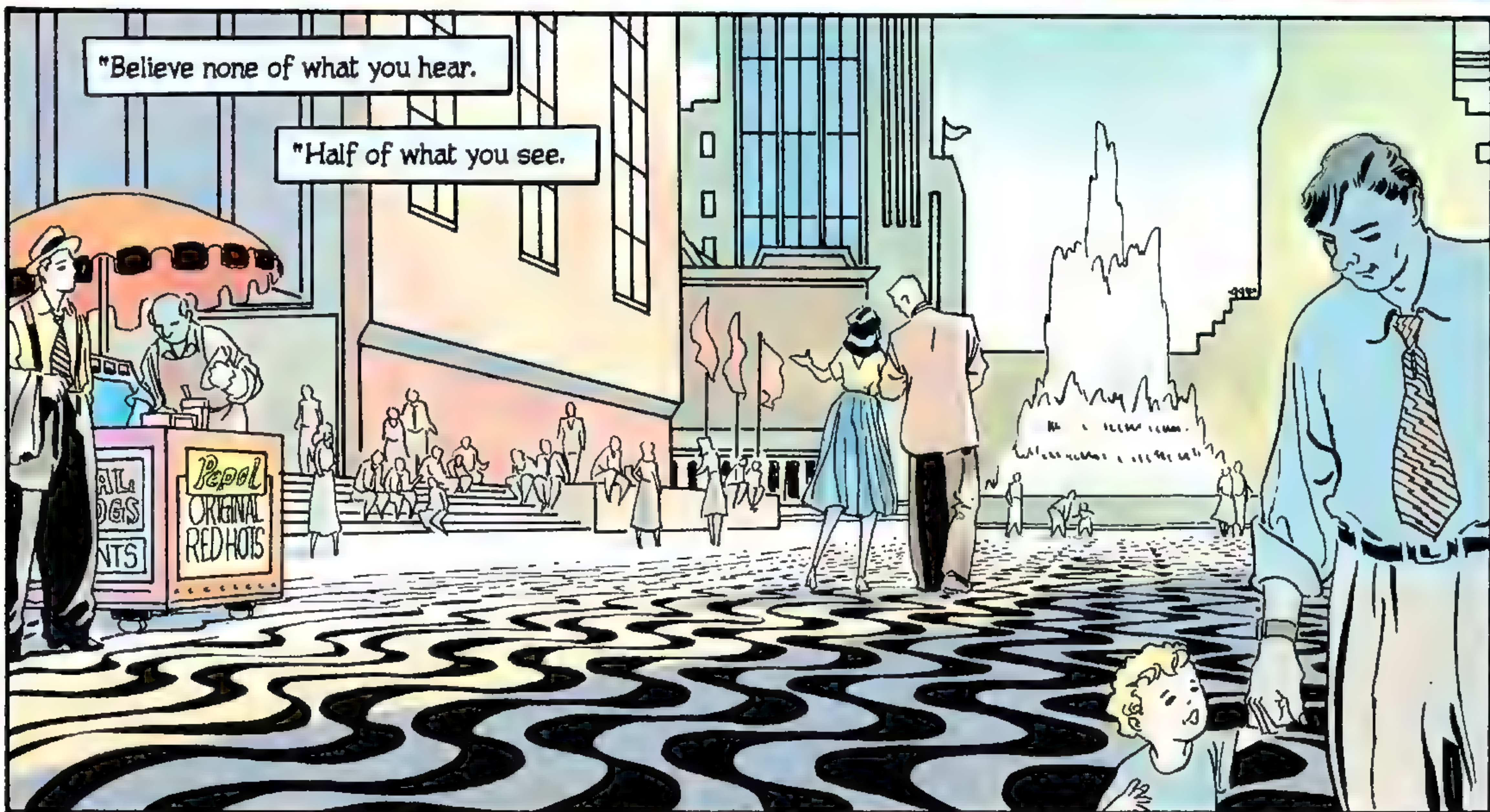
I'LL GET YOU TOMORROW, LANE, NEVER FEAR.



THERE'S NEVER A DULL MINUTE, IS THERE...



Perry once told me,
"Lois, a reporter lives
by three rules.



"Believe none of what you hear.

"Half of what you see.



"And everything you write."

I'm a reporter. Or a "newspaperman," as Perry would put it.
A damn good one by anyone's standards and mine are pretty high.

I like Perry's rules.
They make sense to me.

Strike that.
They made sense to me.

GOOD
MORNING,
METROPOLIS.

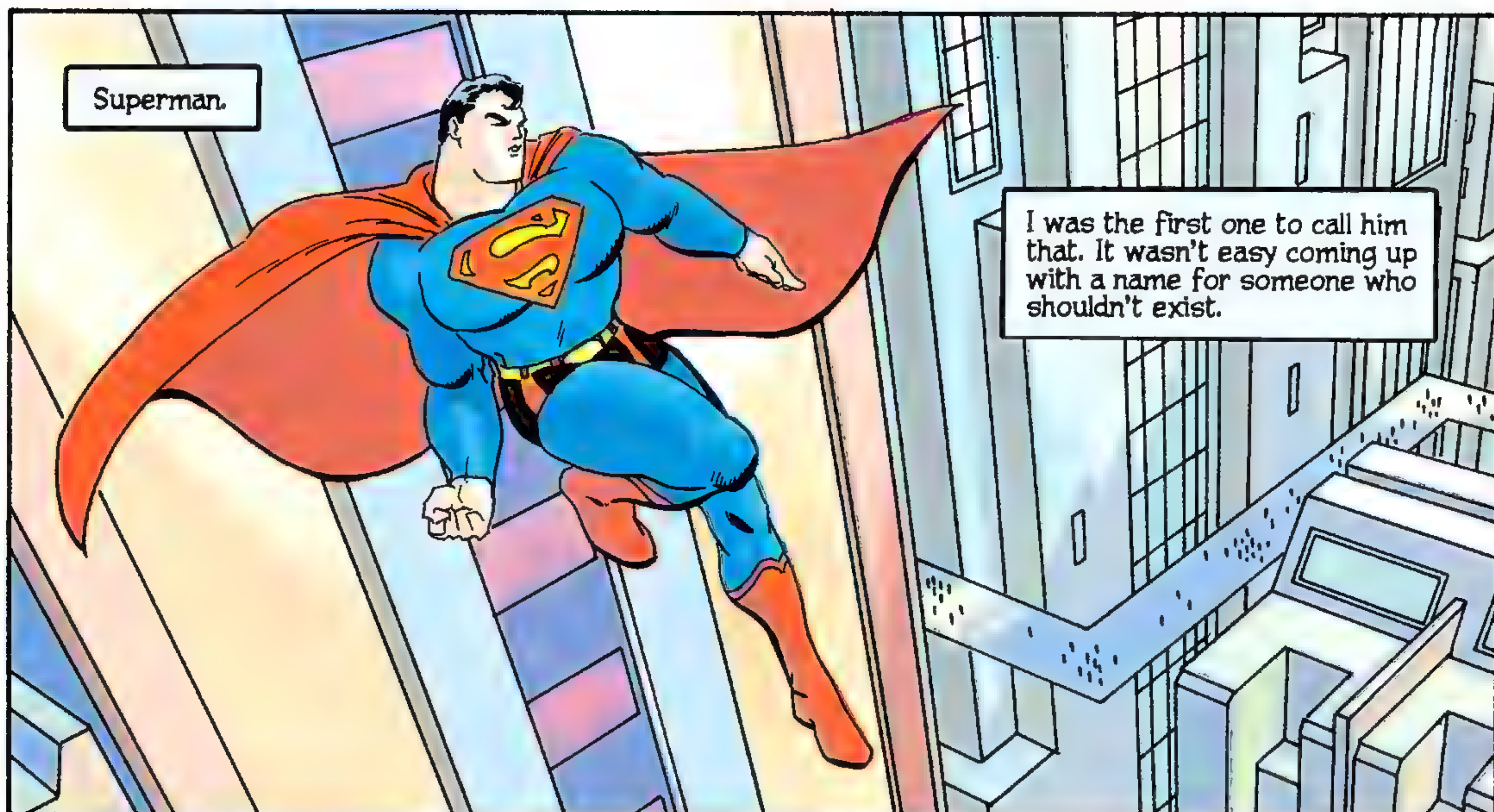
Because now those rules
fall under the same category.

It's all "B.S."

"Before Superman."

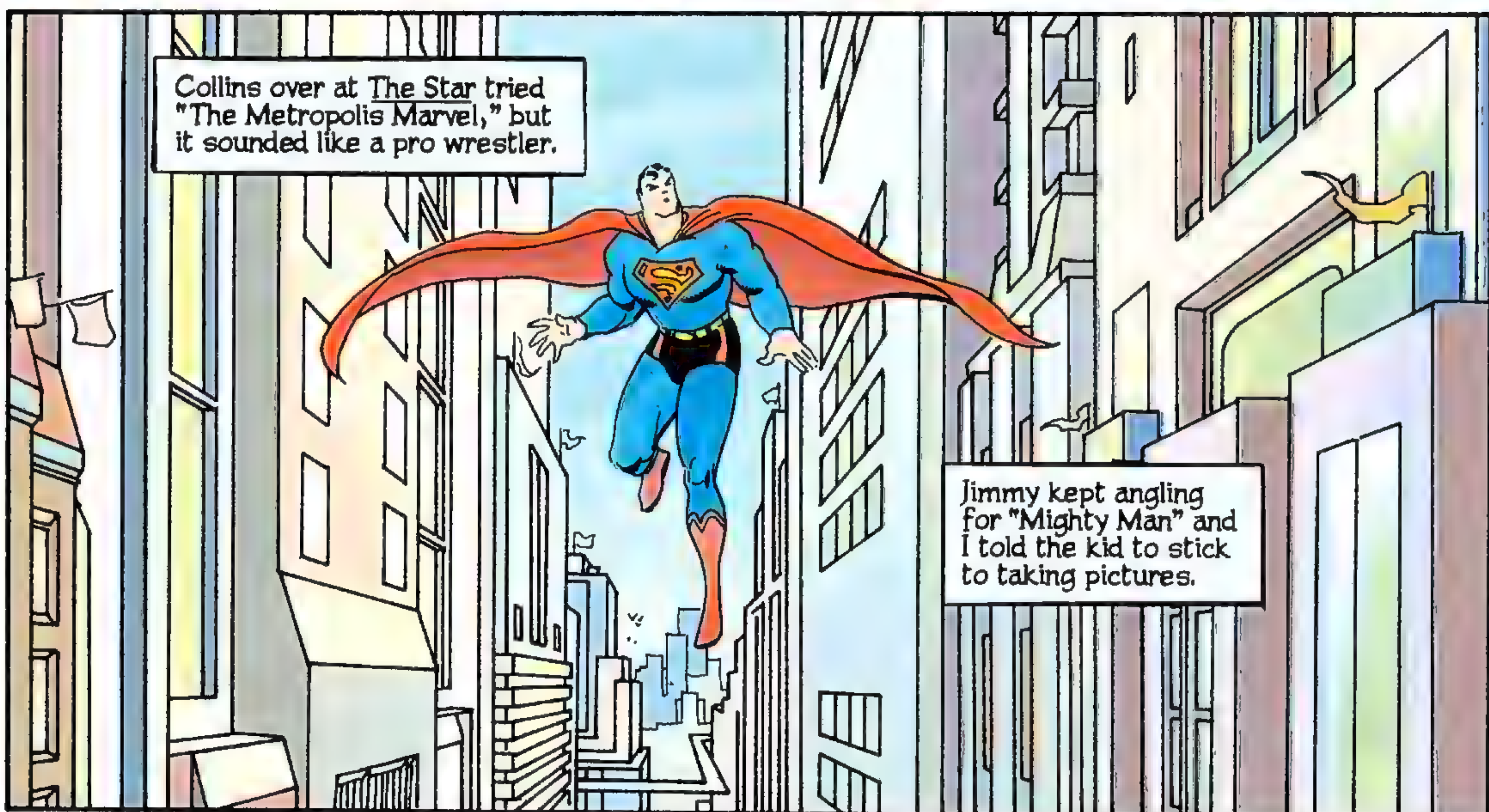
T6
98

DAILY PLAN



Superman.

I was the first one to call him that. It wasn't easy coming up with a name for someone who shouldn't exist.



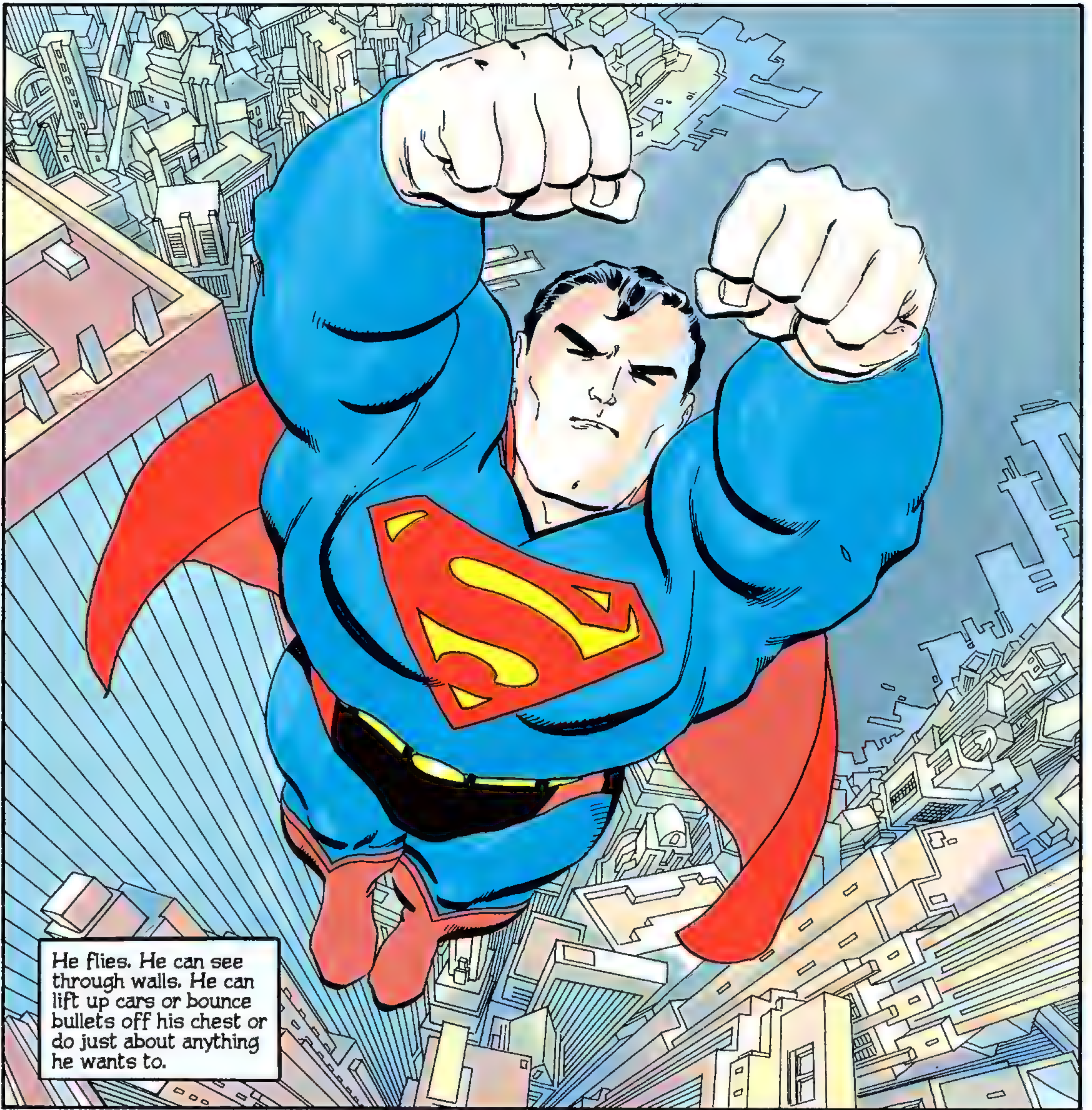
Collins over at The Star tried "The Metropolis Marvel," but it sounded like a pro wrestler.

Jimmy kept angling for "Mighty Man" and I told the kid to stick to taking pictures.



You know what I really wanted to call him?

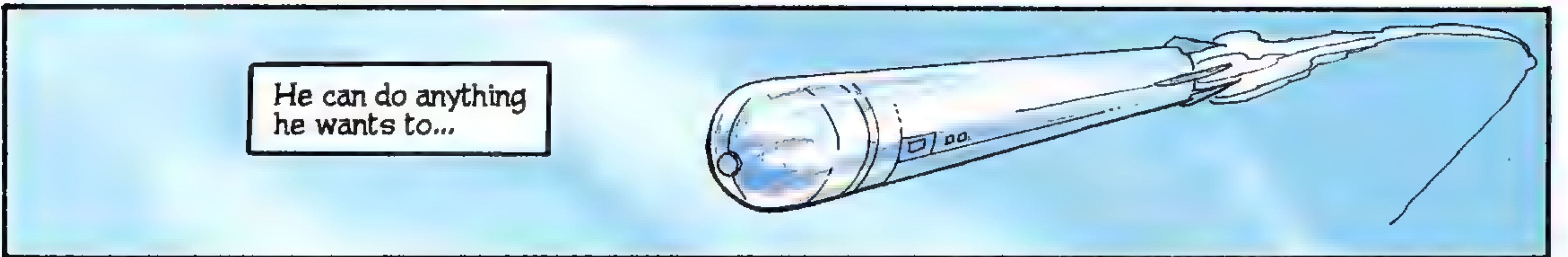
"Too good to be true."



He flies. He can see through walls. He can lift up cars or bounce bullets off his chest or do just about anything he wants to.



And that's the part that gets me.



He can do anything he wants to...

...and he decides to do what?

Be a hero?

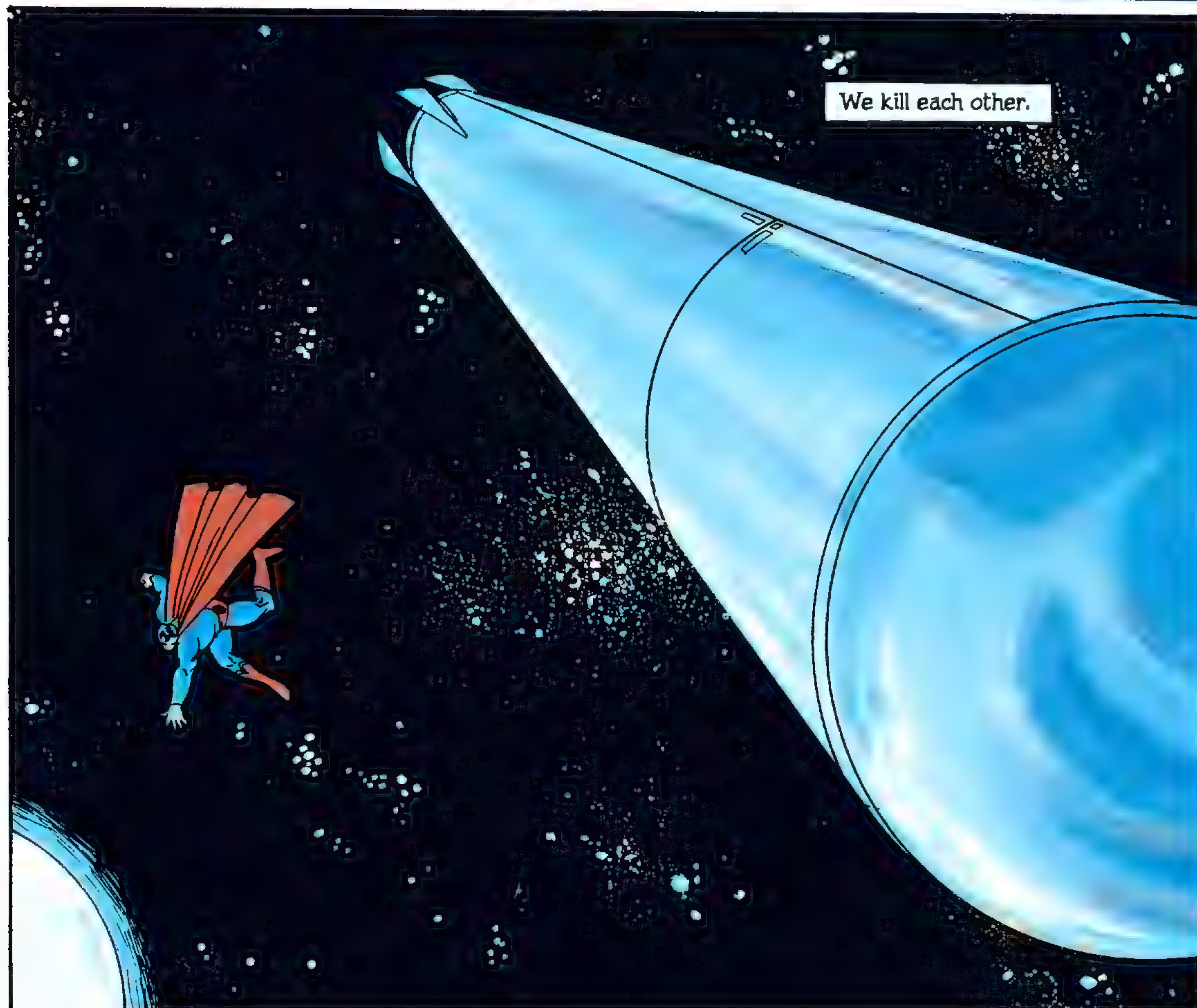


Why?

We live in a world where
nobody sticks their
neck out for anybody.



I write about it all day long.
We lie to each other.
We brutalize each other.



We kill each other.

And here's this...
this... man.

(It's amazing for someone who
makes a living using words, how
often they can fail you.)



Sticking his neck
out for everyone.

Way, way out.

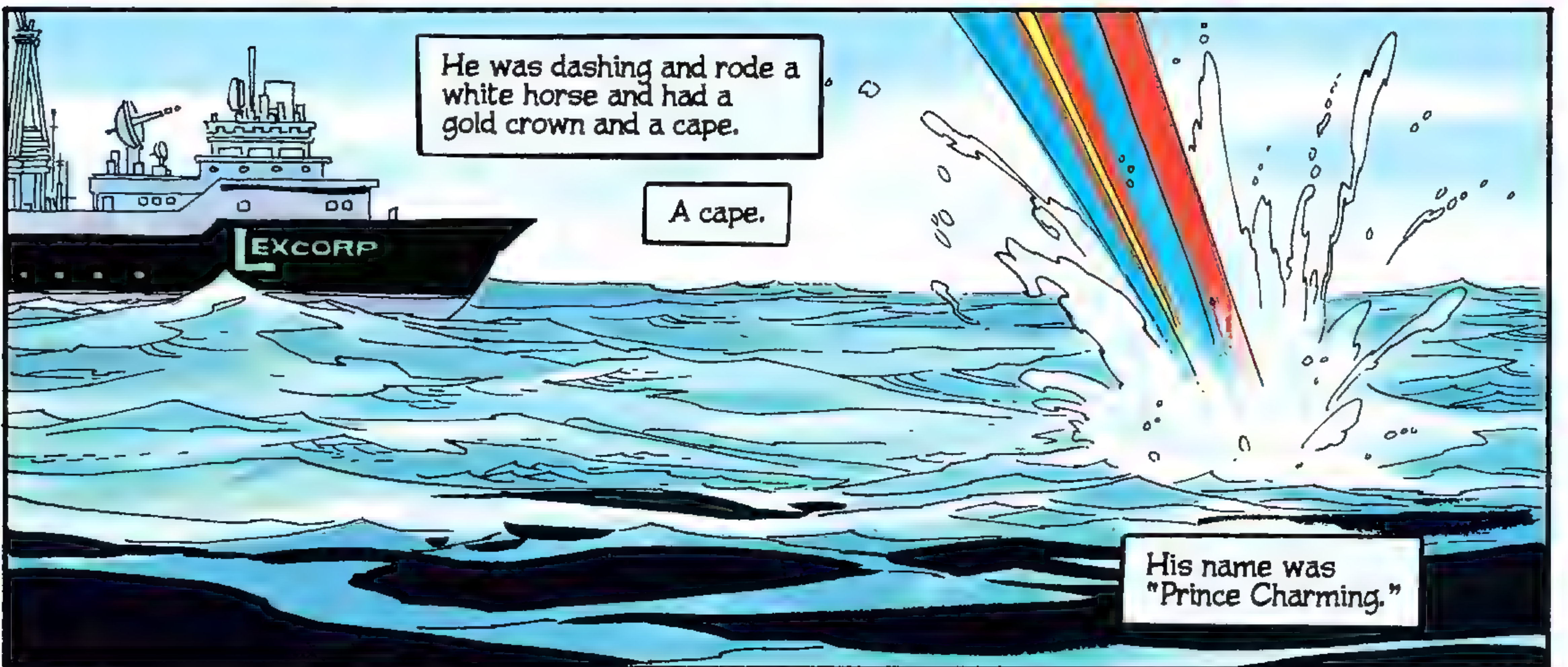
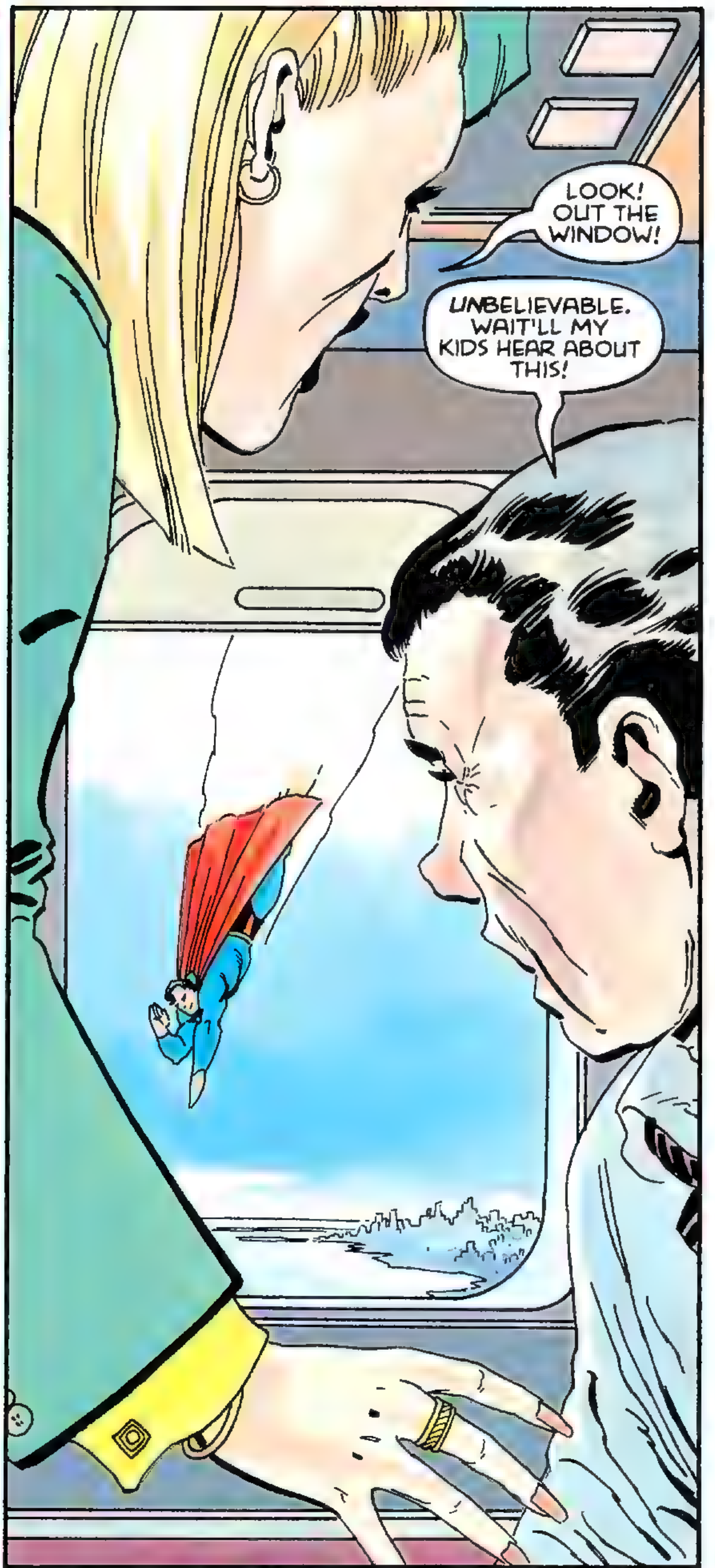


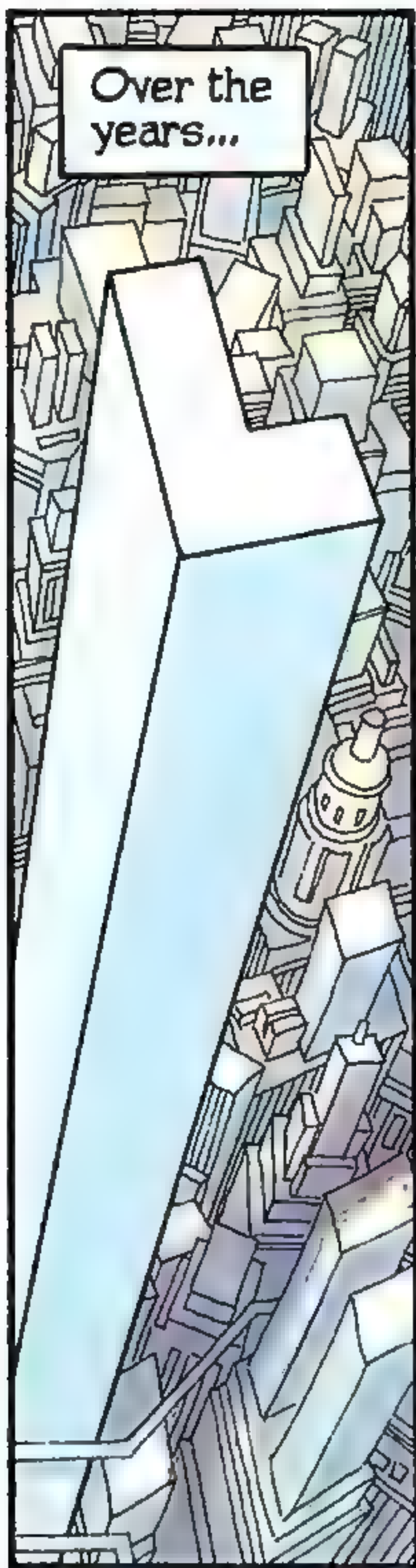
It's almost like --

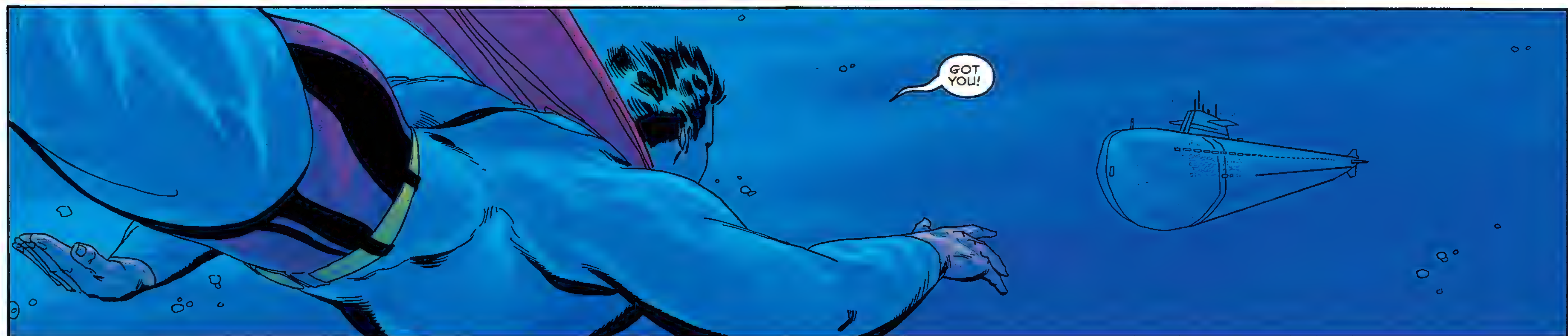
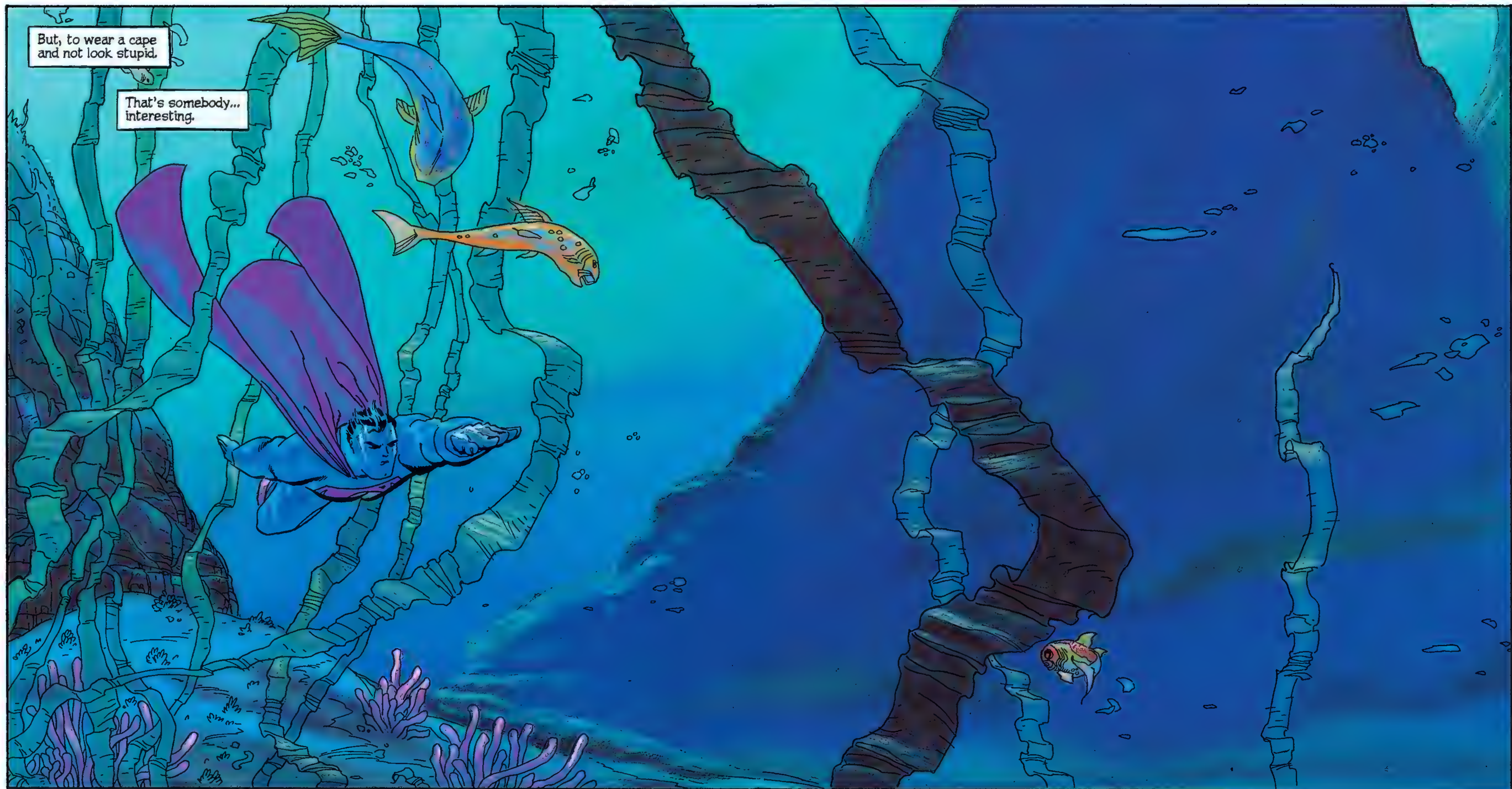
"He knows if we've been bad or good,
so be good for goodness' sake."

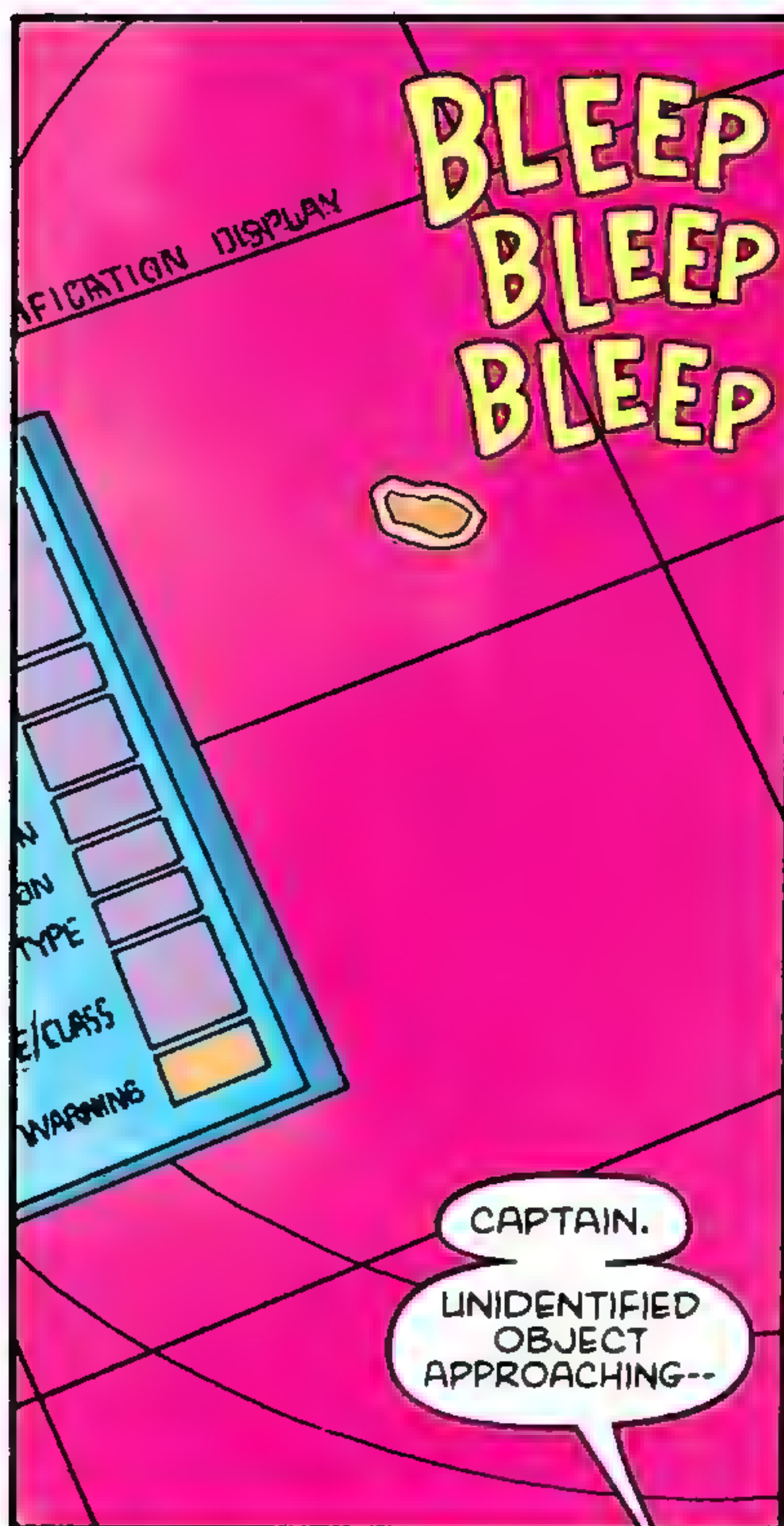


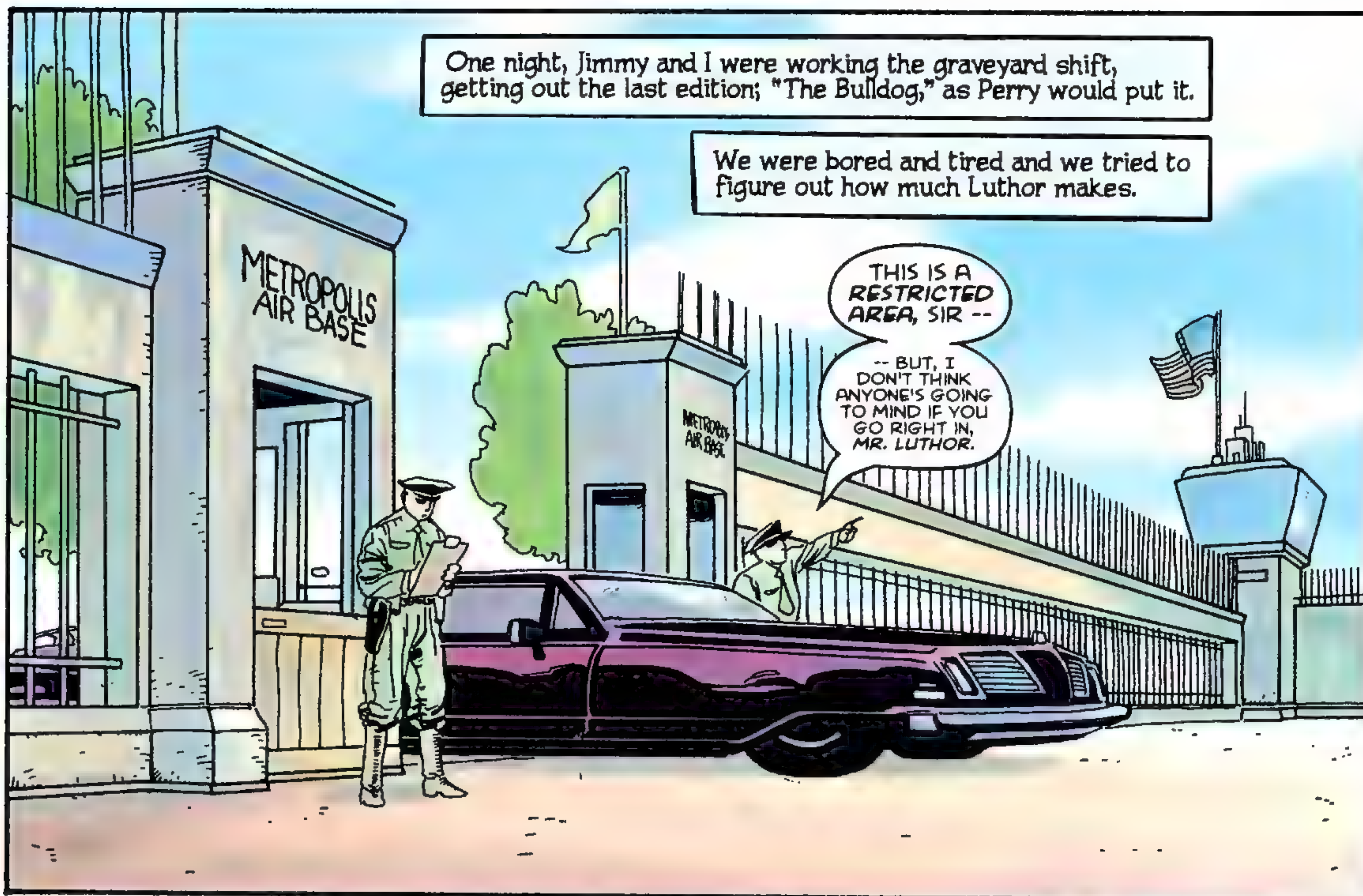
And I'm sorry, I've been a
reporter far too long to start
believing in Santa Claus.











One night, Jimmy and I were working the graveyard shift, getting out the last edition; "The Bulldog," as Perry would put it.

We were bored and tired and we tried to figure out how much Luthor makes.

THIS IS A
RESTRICTED
AREA, SIR --

-- BUT, I
DON'T THINK
ANYONE'S GOING
TO MIND IF YOU
GO RIGHT IN,
MR. LUTHOR.



Our best guess?

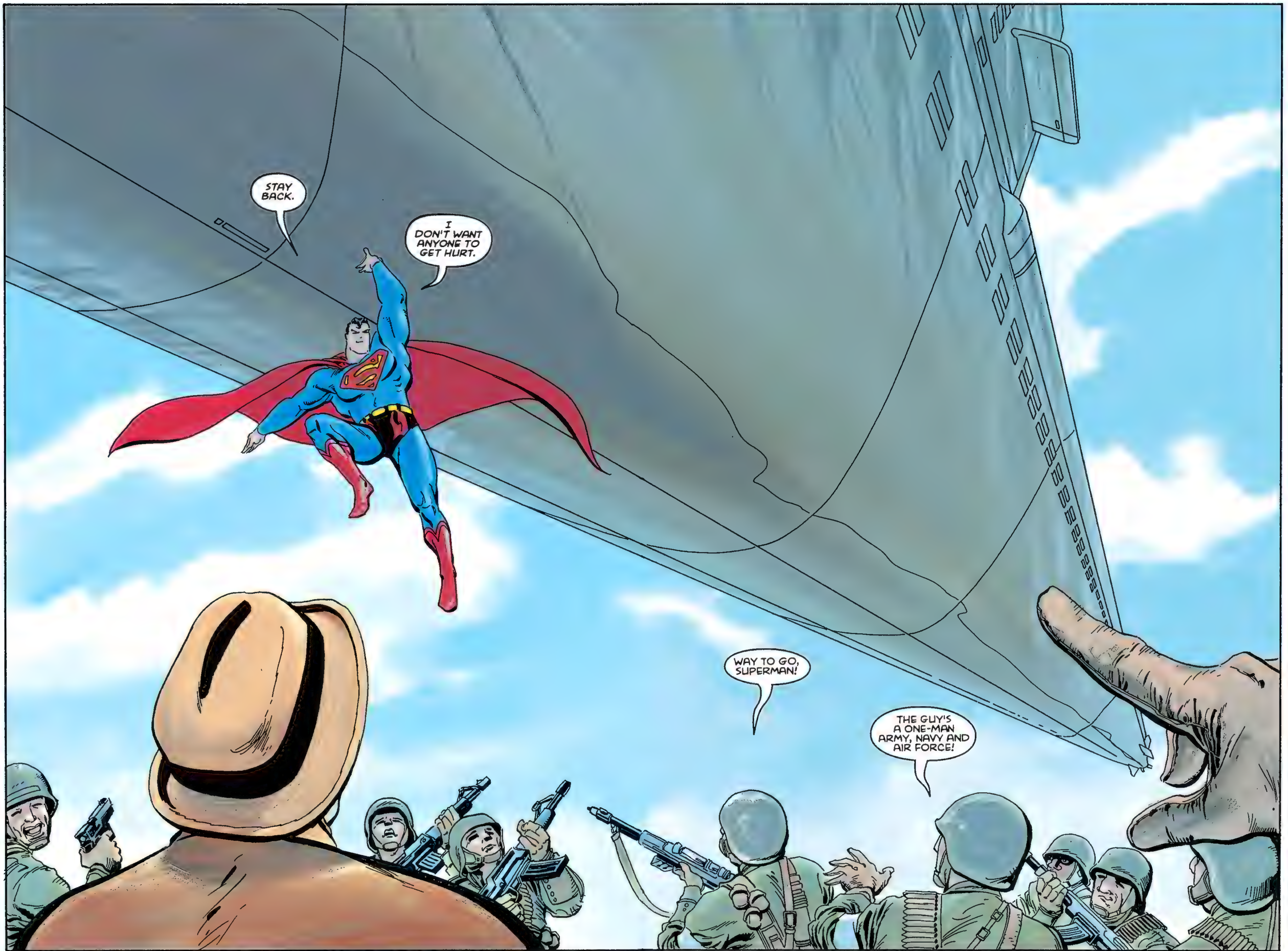
One hundred
and fifty dollars
a second.

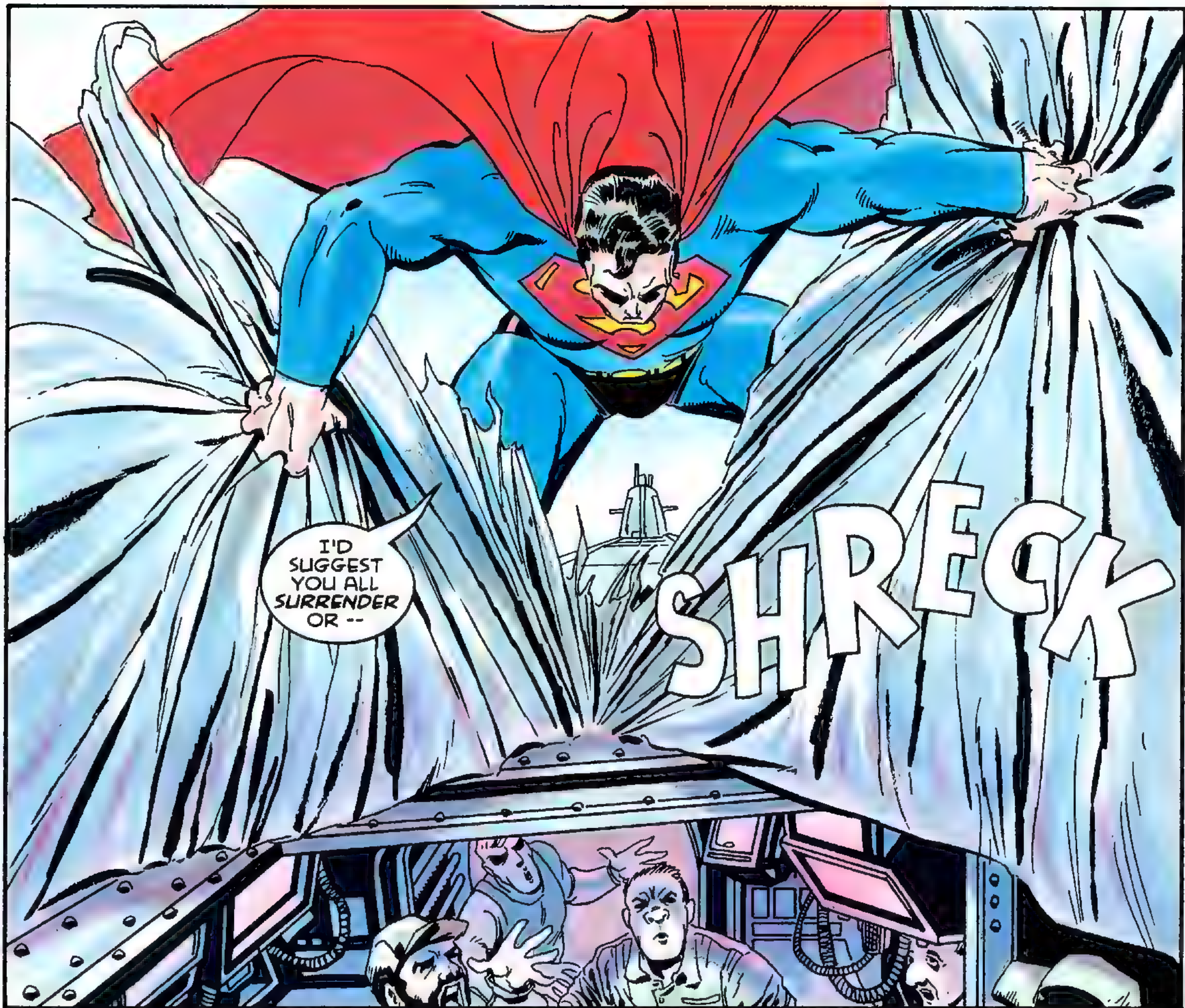


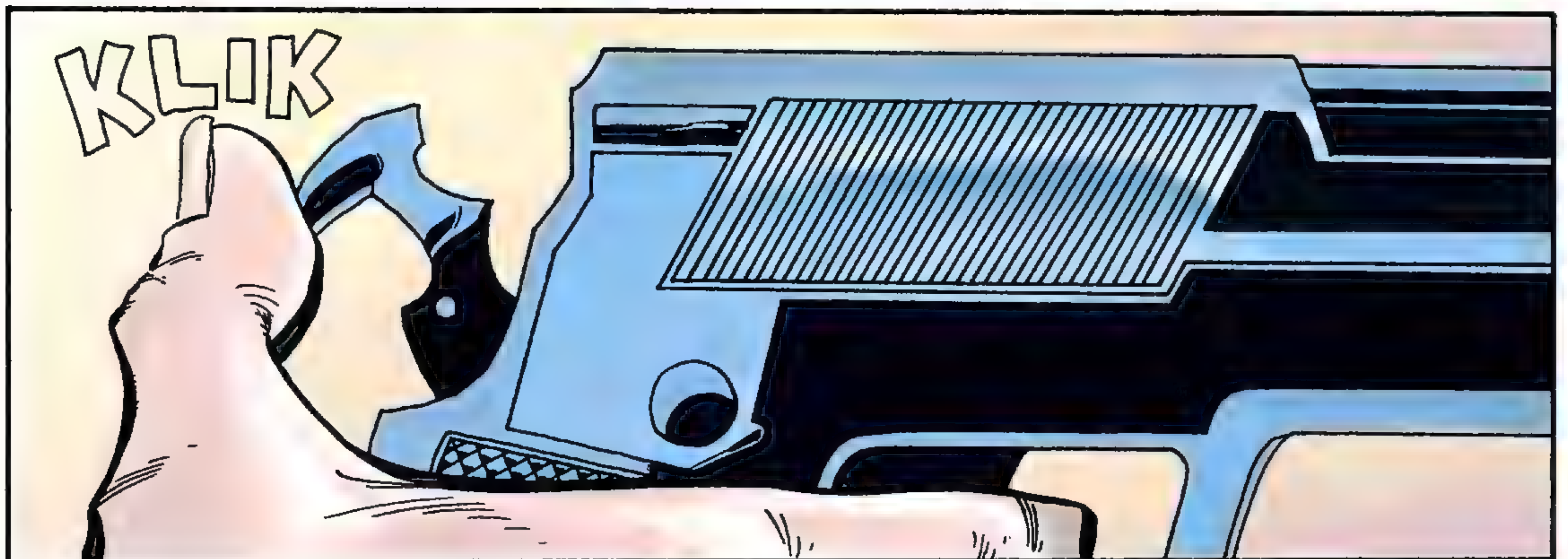
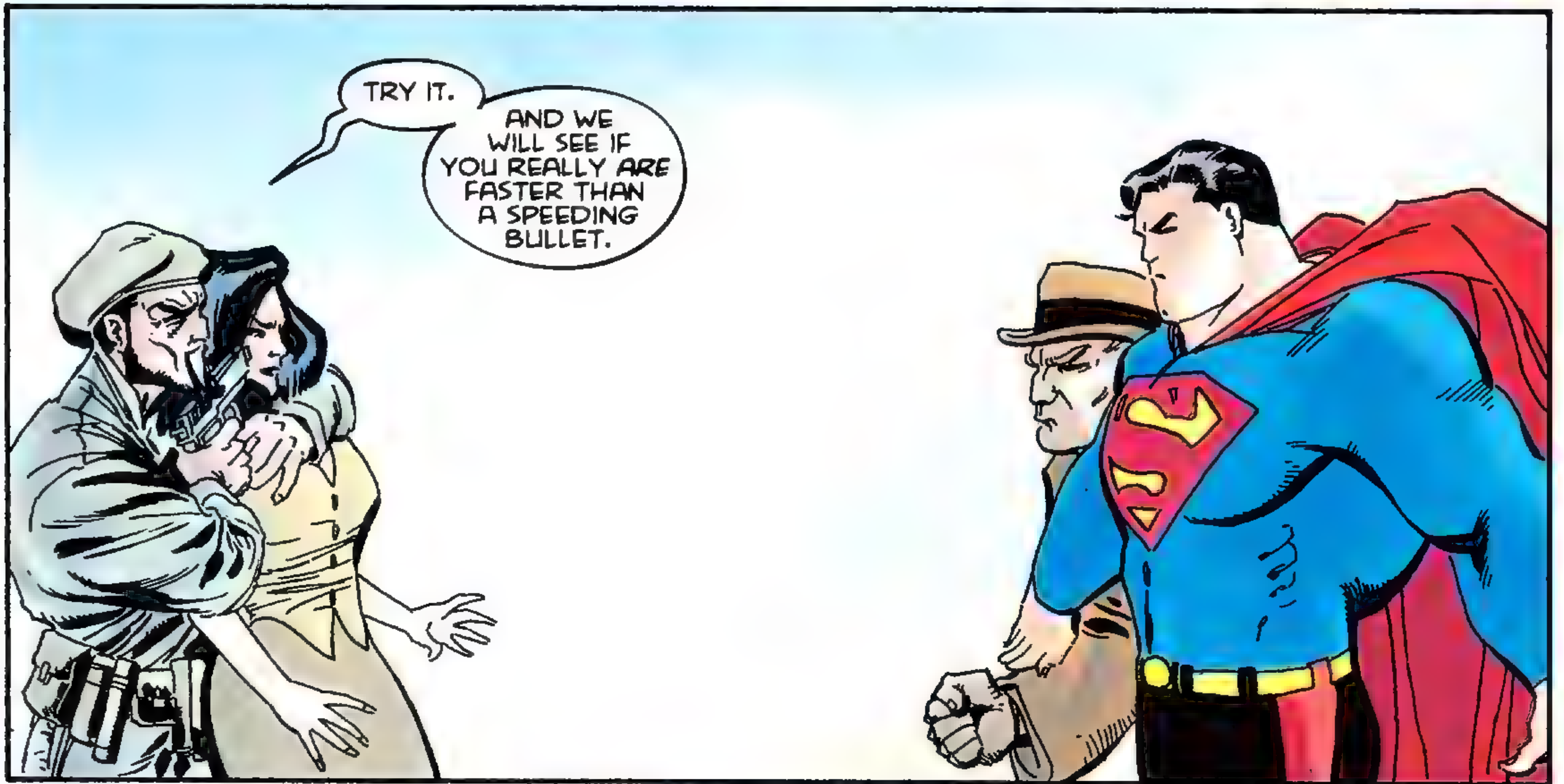
In other words, if Lex Luthor found
a hundred dollar bill lying in the street...

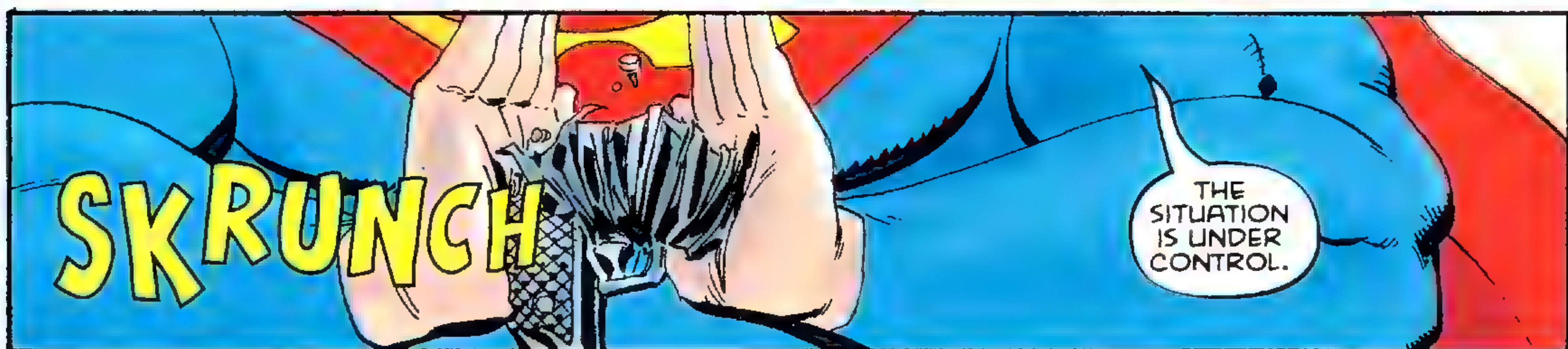
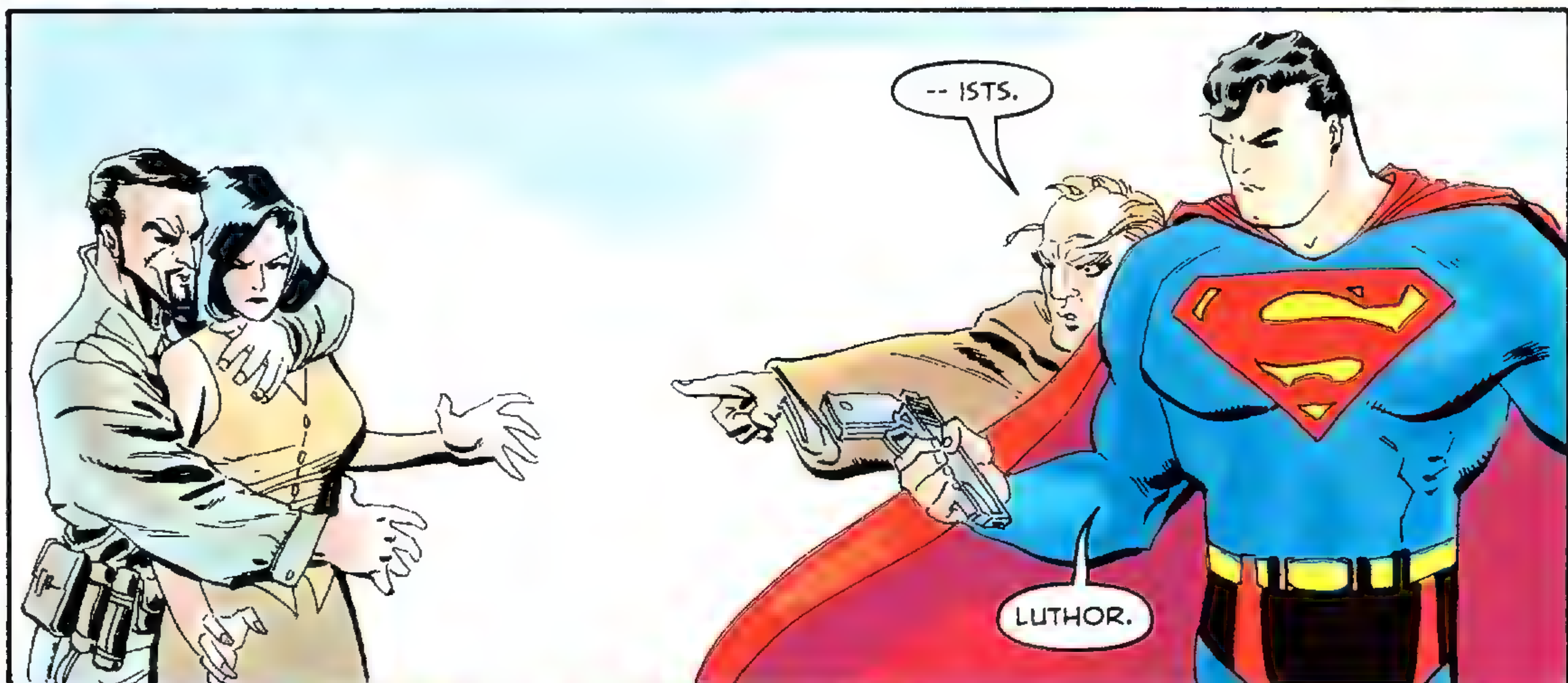
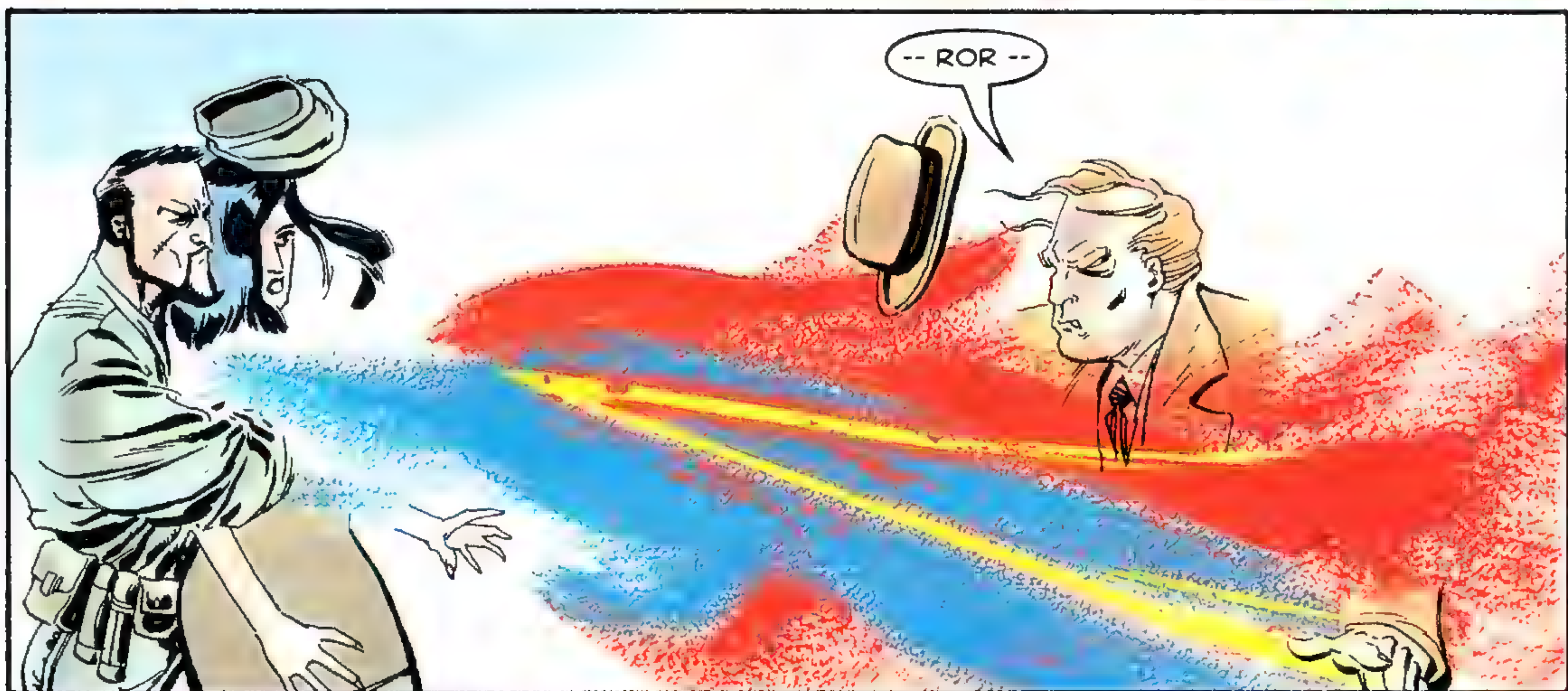
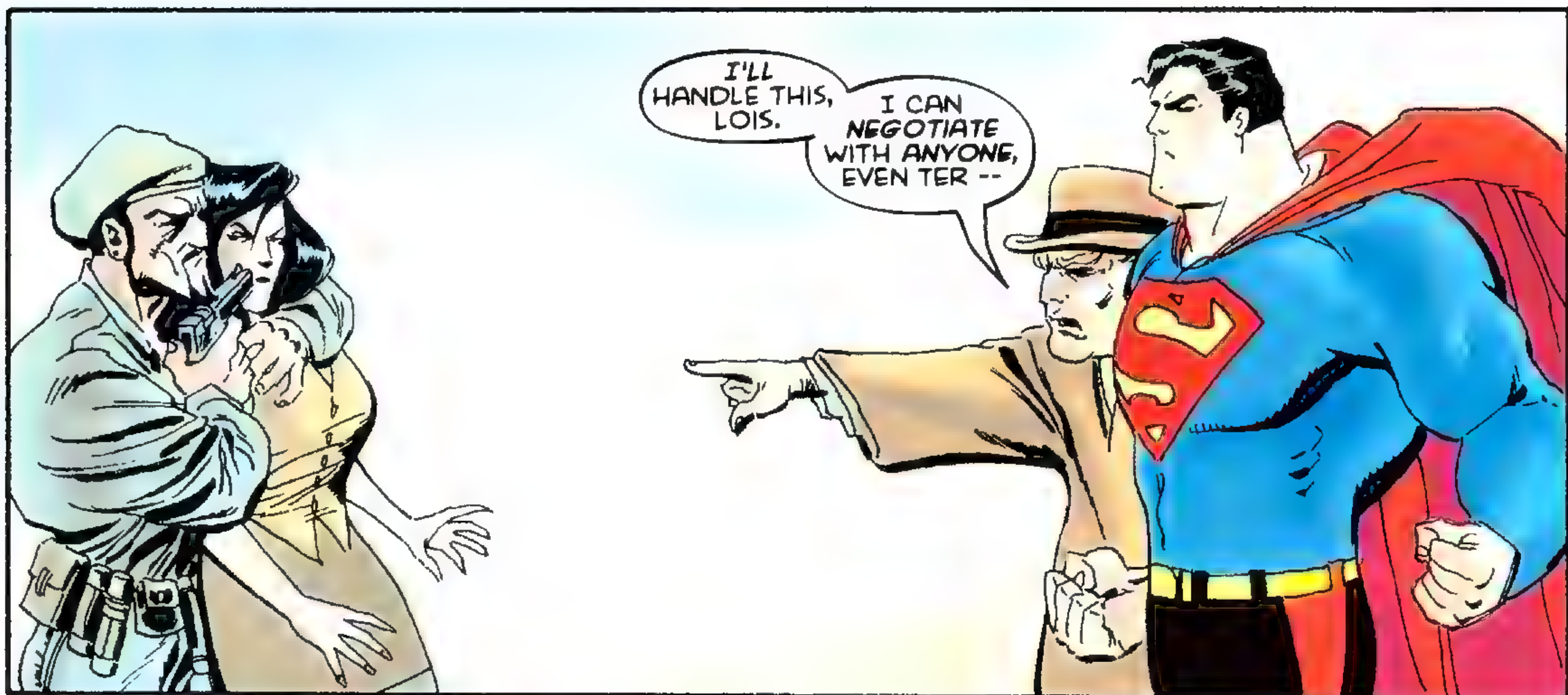
HRRRM...

... it wouldn't be worth
his time to pick it up.













LOIS,
AFTER ALL
THIS TIME, YOU
STILL NEVER CEASE
TO SURPRISE
ME.

COME NOW,
I'LL HAVE THE
LIMO DROP YOU
BACK AT THE PLANET,
SO YOU CAN START
RIGHT AWAY ON
YOUR THRILLING
STORY --



ACTUALLY,
LEX --

-- I THINK
SUPERMAN
WAS ABOUT TO
OFFER ME
A LIFT.

I'M ON
DEADLINE
AND EVERY
SECOND
COUNTS.

I'D BE
HAPPY TO,
MISS LANE.



LUTHOR. THAT MISSILE AND THE
GUIDANCE SYSTEMS ON BOARD
THAT SUB WERE MANUFACTURED
BY LEXCORP.

IF I FIND OUT THAT
YOUR FINGERPRINTS WERE
ANYWHERE NEAR WHAT
HAPPENED TODAY --

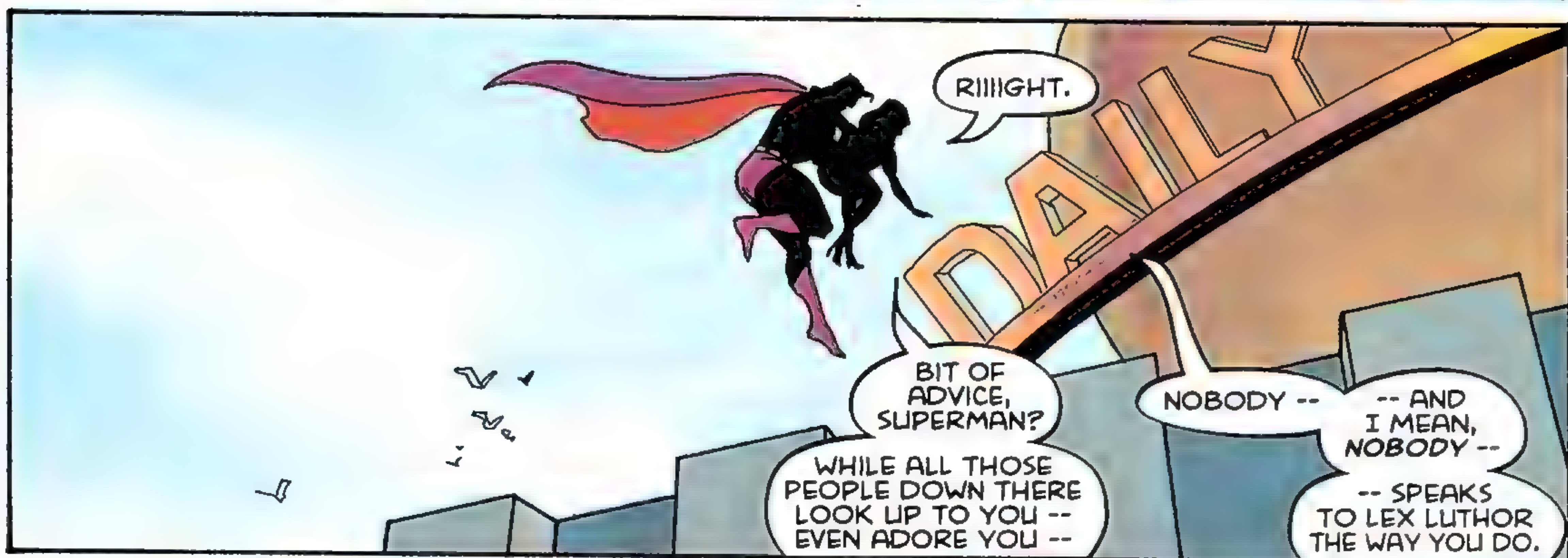


HOW DARE
YOU!

IT'S THOSE
KIND OF
SLANDEROUS
AND FALSE --



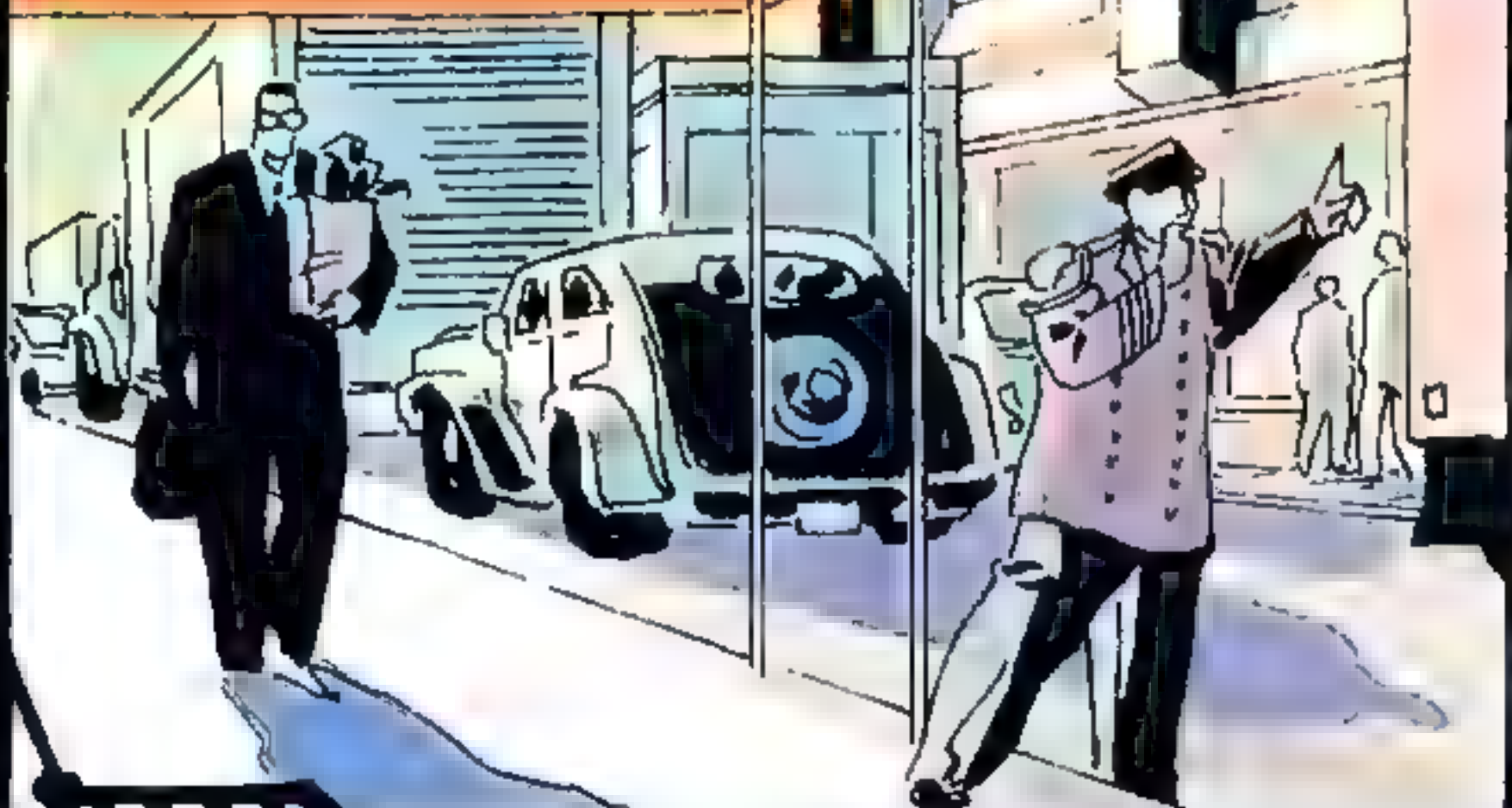
I AM
TALKING
TO YOU!



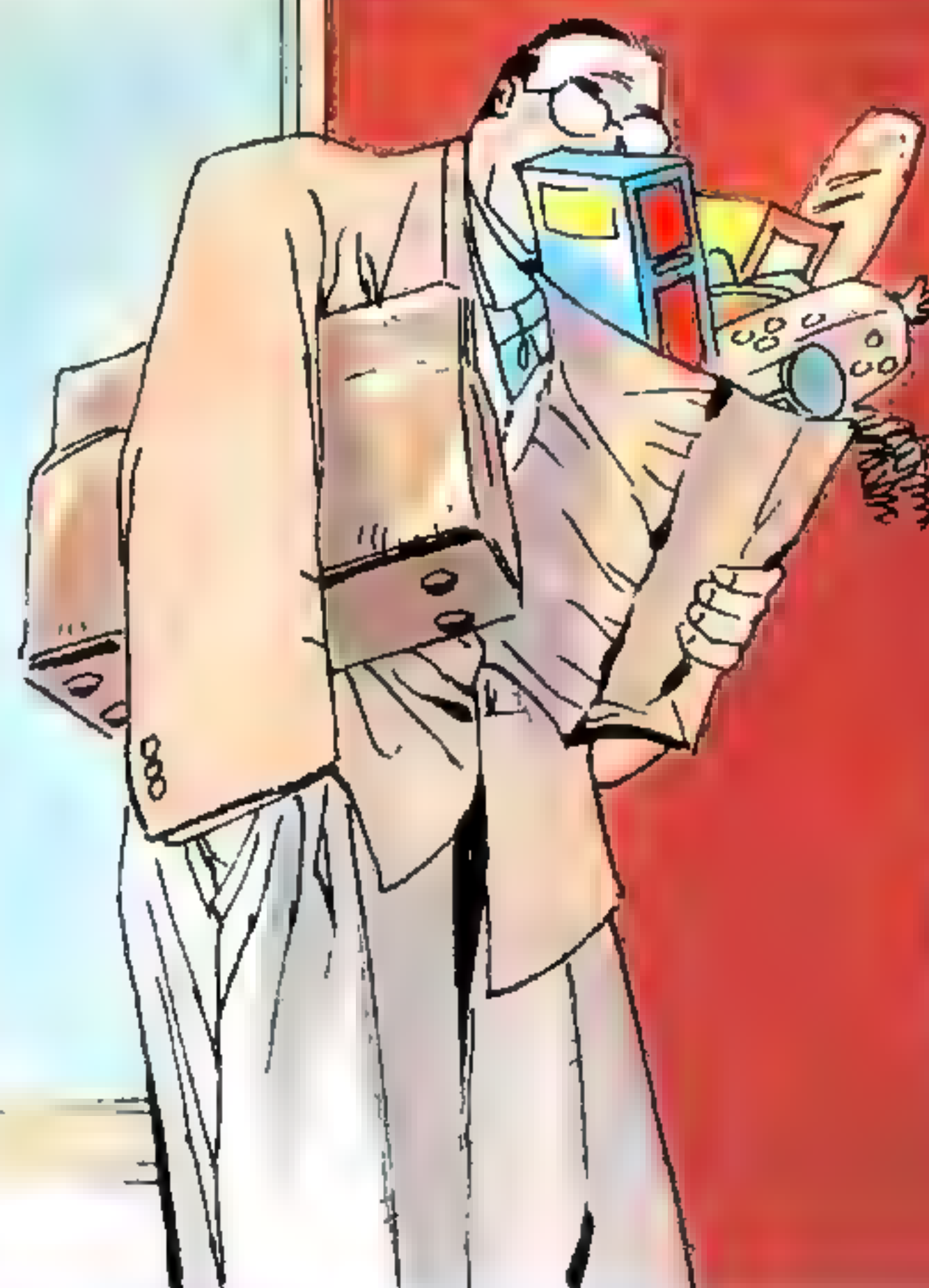


The problem, of course, with the whole "Prince Charming" thing is that it's a recipe for disaster.

344 CLINTON



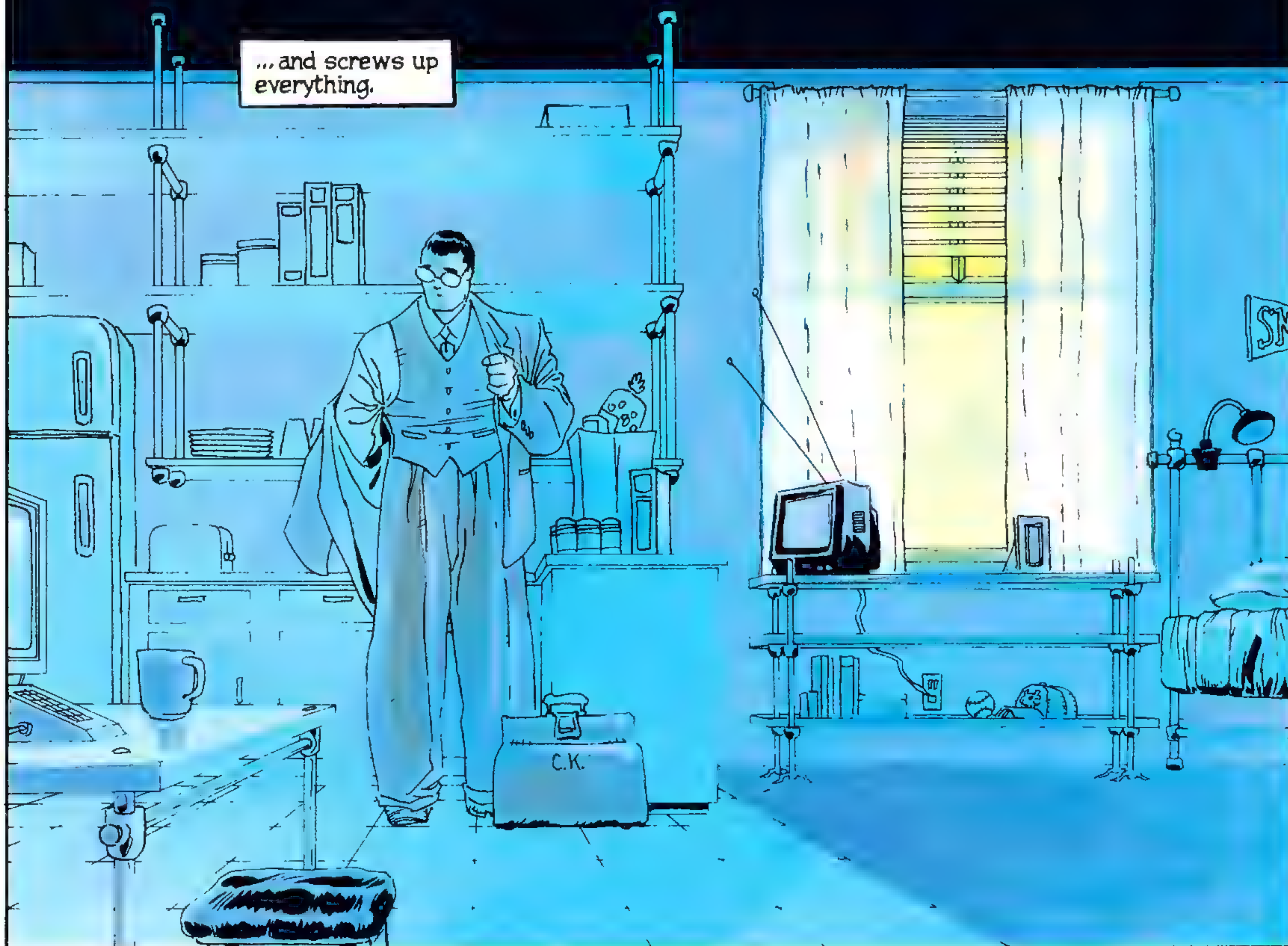
A woman has this ideal man in mind and since no such man exists, no man can live up to that standard.

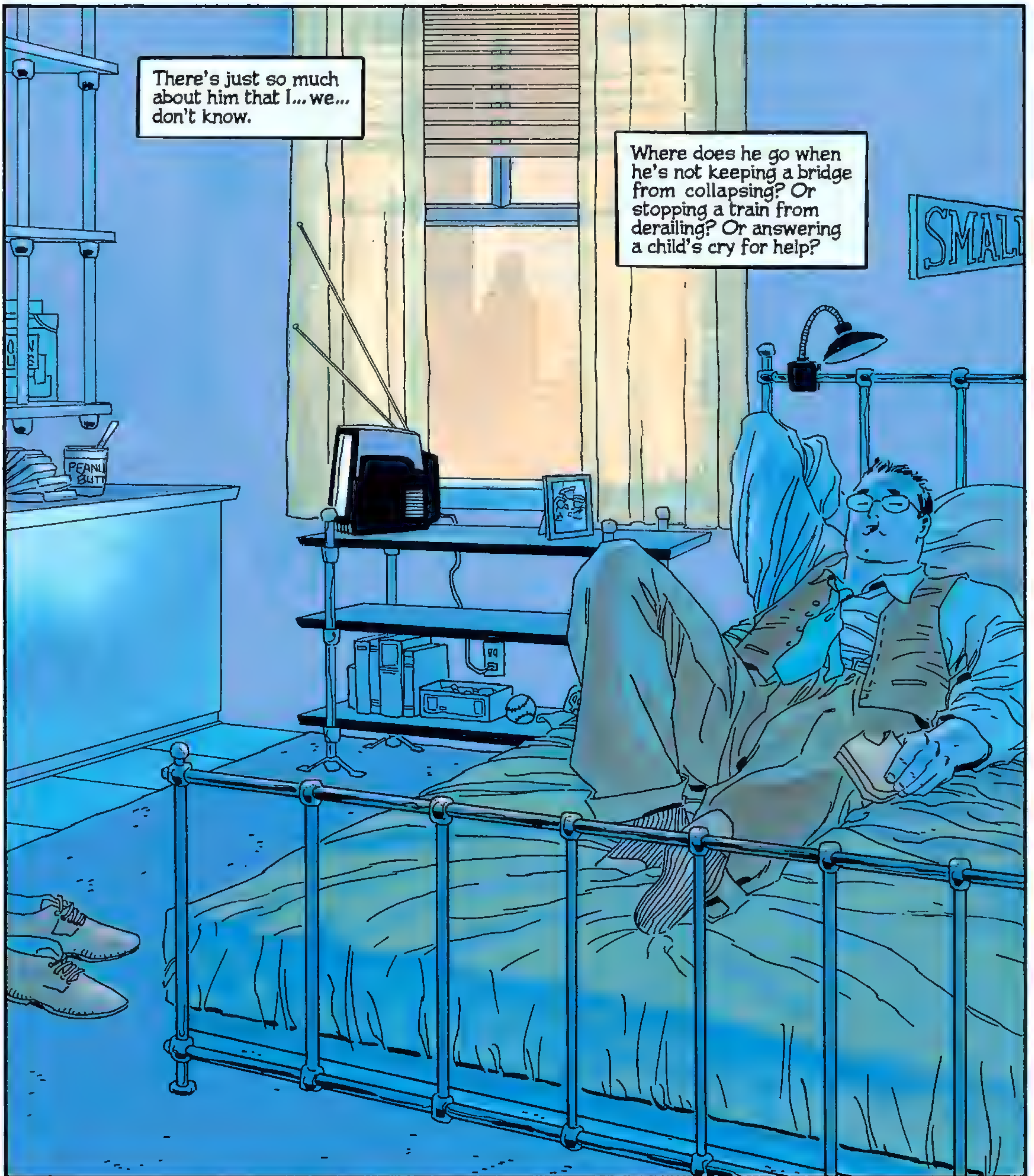


And then, along comes Superman...



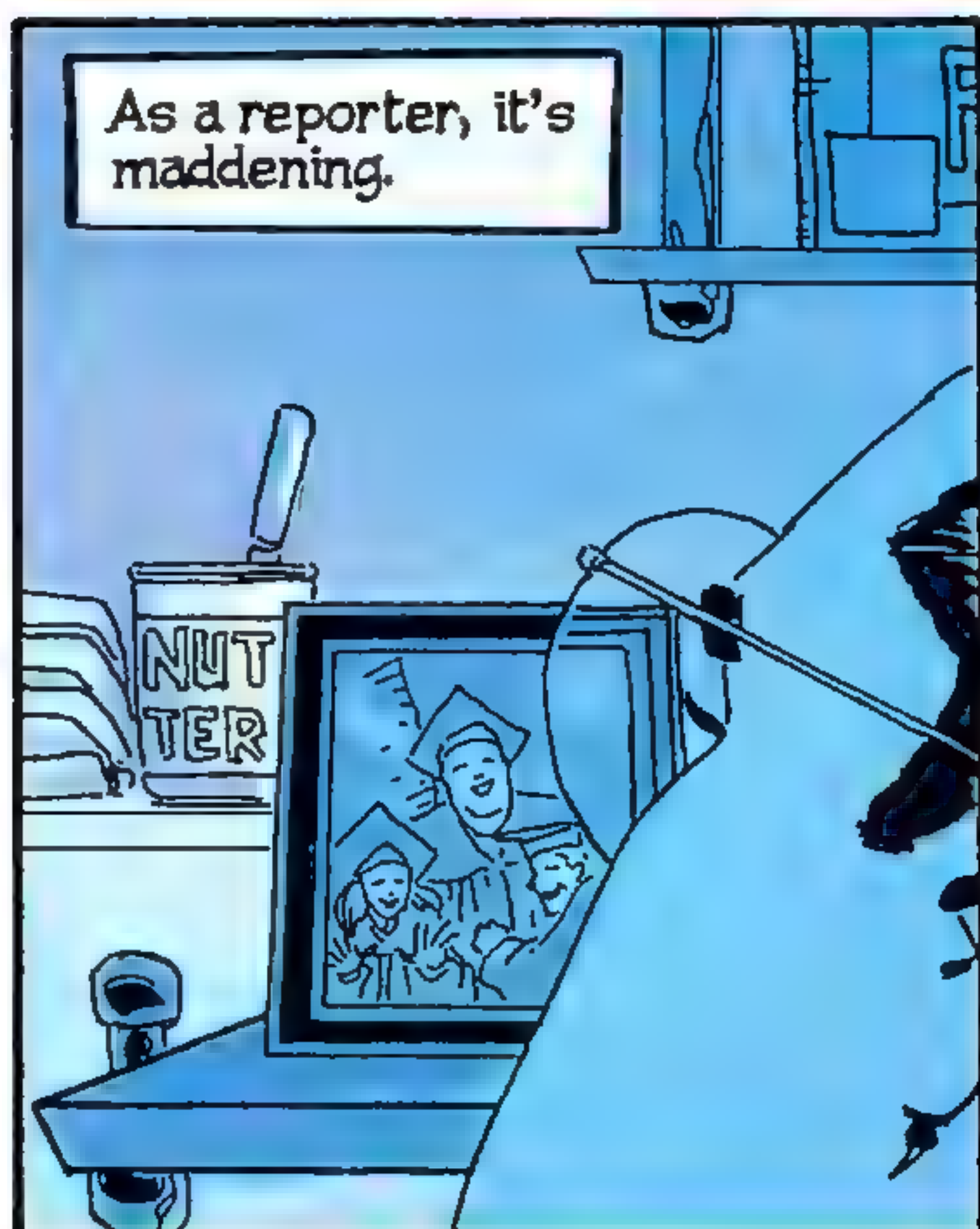
...and screws up everything.





There's just so much about him that I... we... don't know.

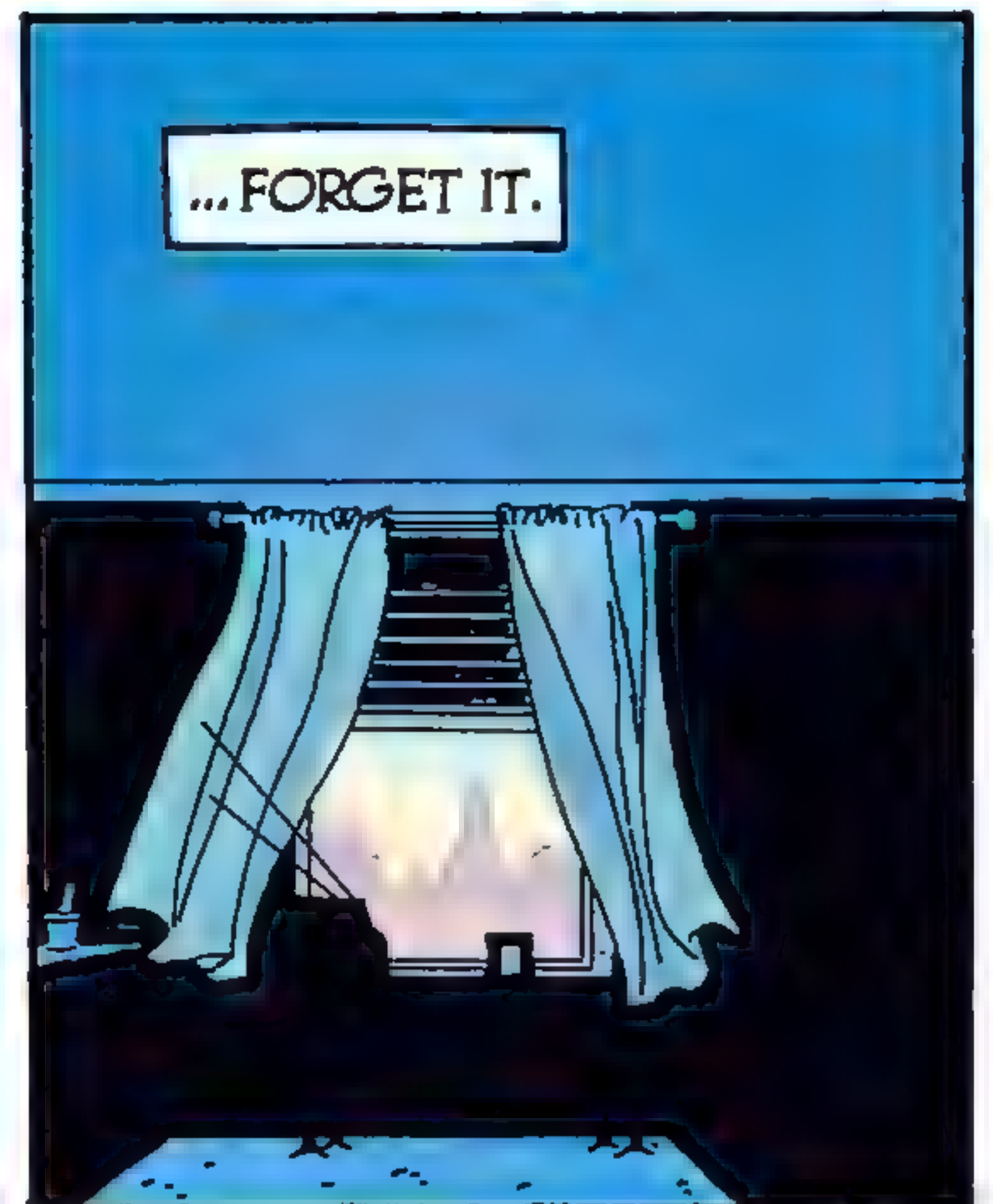
Where does he go when he's not keeping a bridge from collapsing? Or stopping a train from derailling? Or answering a child's cry for help?



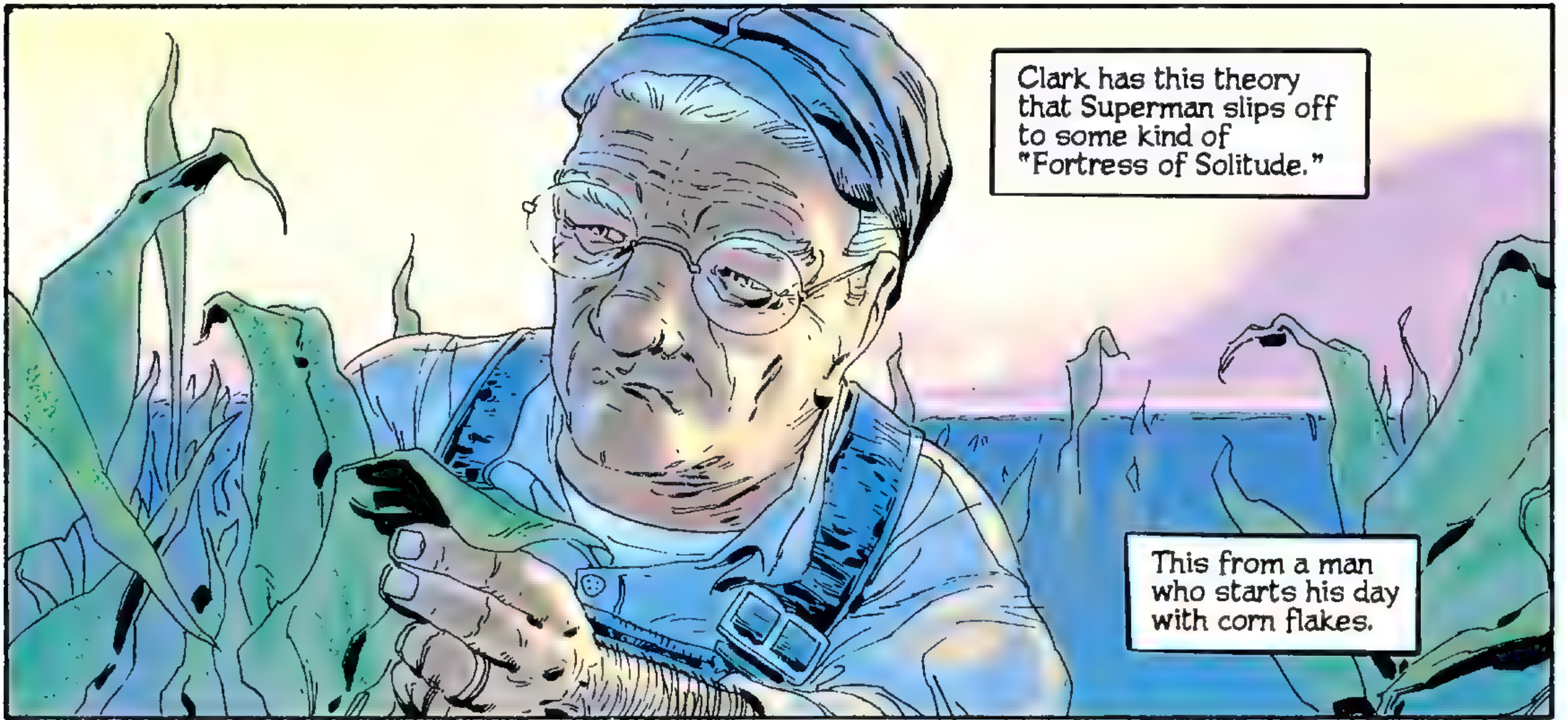
As a reporter, it's maddening.



As a woman...

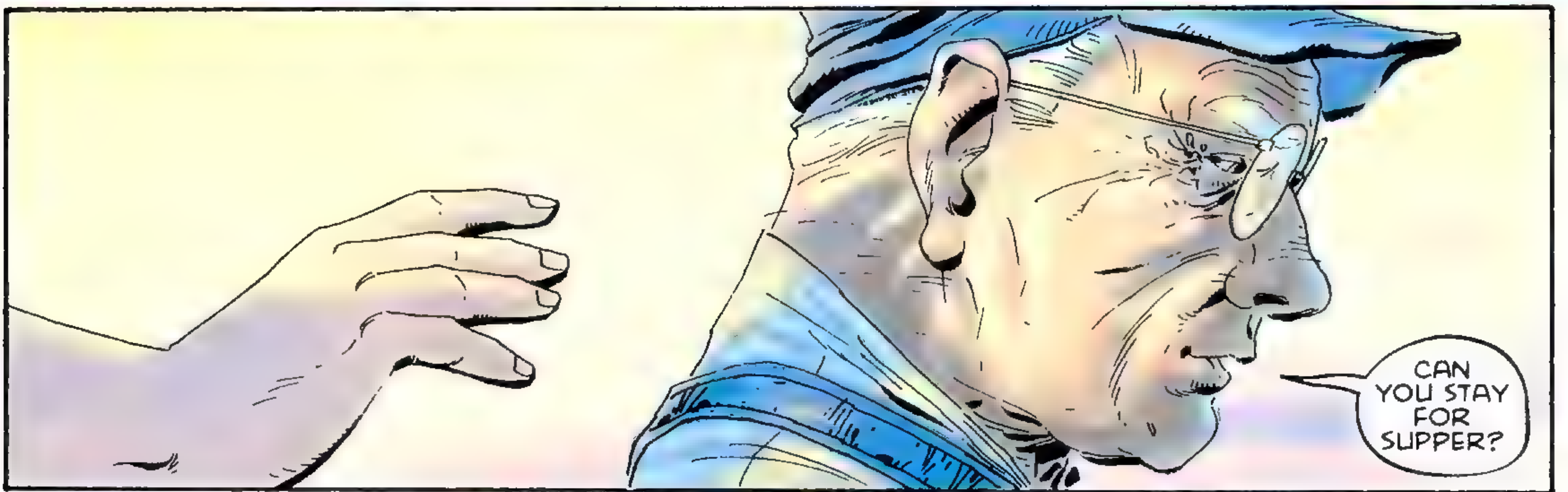


...FORGET IT.



Clark has this theory that Superman slips off to some kind of "Fortress of Solitude."

This from a man who starts his day with corn flakes.



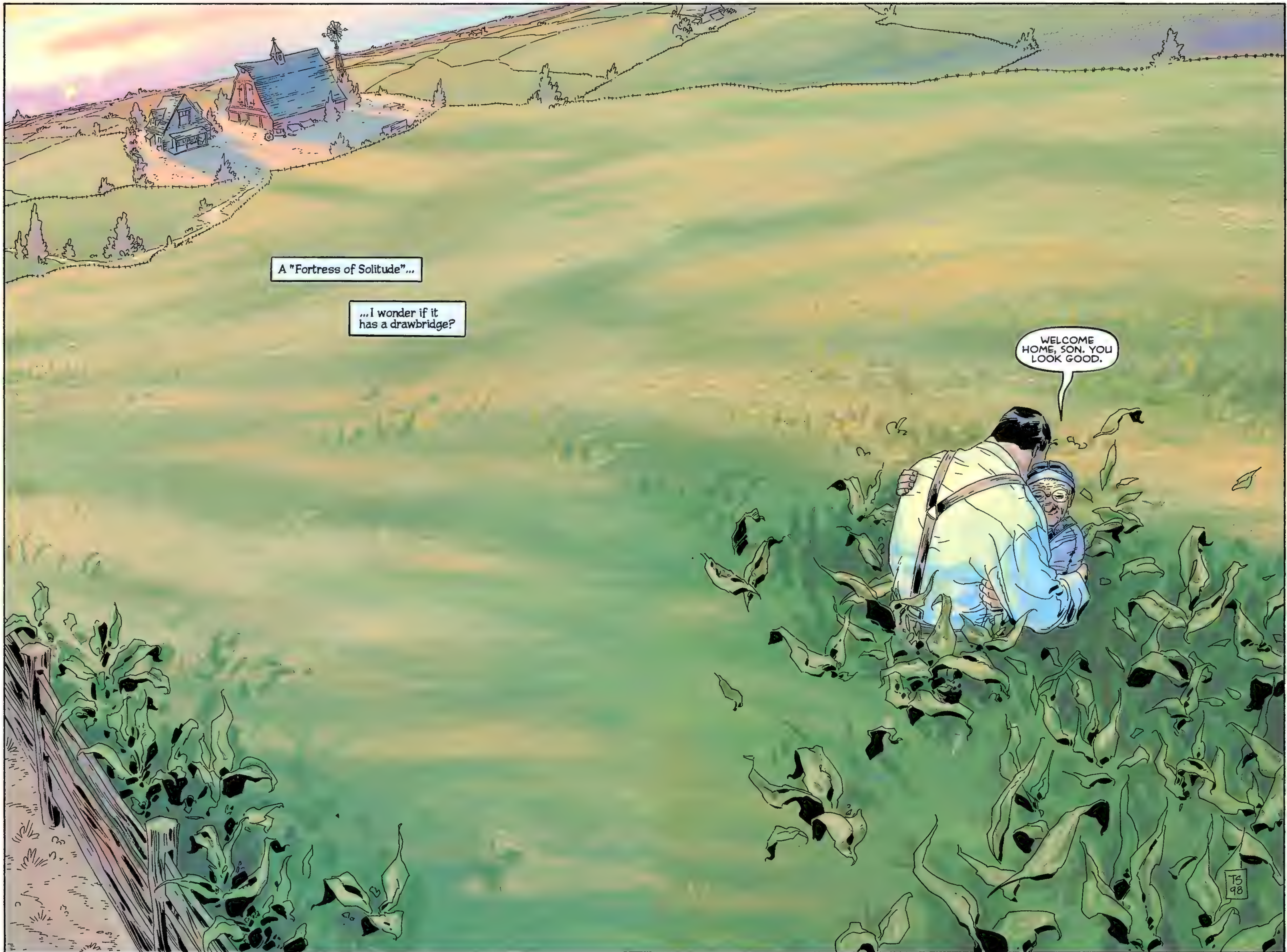
CAN YOU STAY FOR SLIPPER?



HOW DID YOU KNOW IT WAS ME?

MUD ON CITY SHOES HAS ITS OWN SOUND.

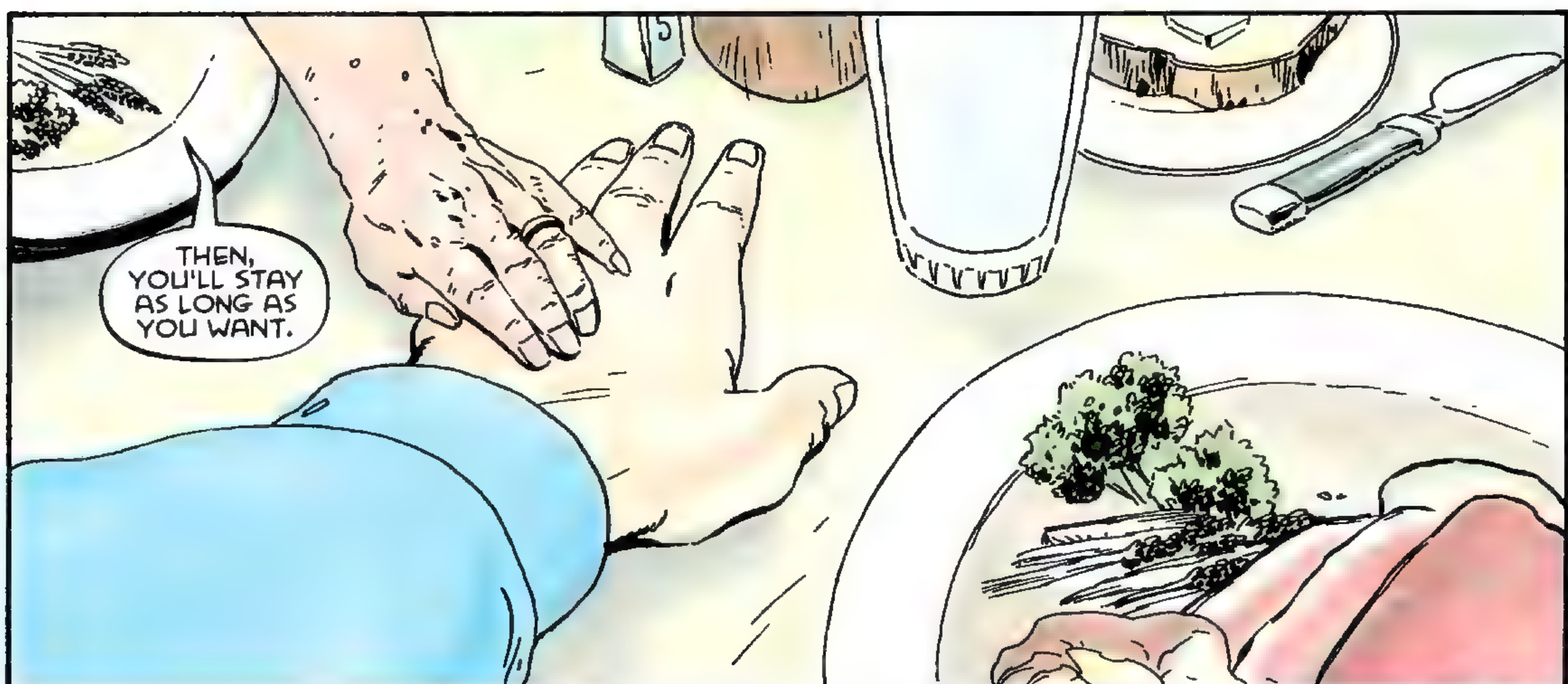
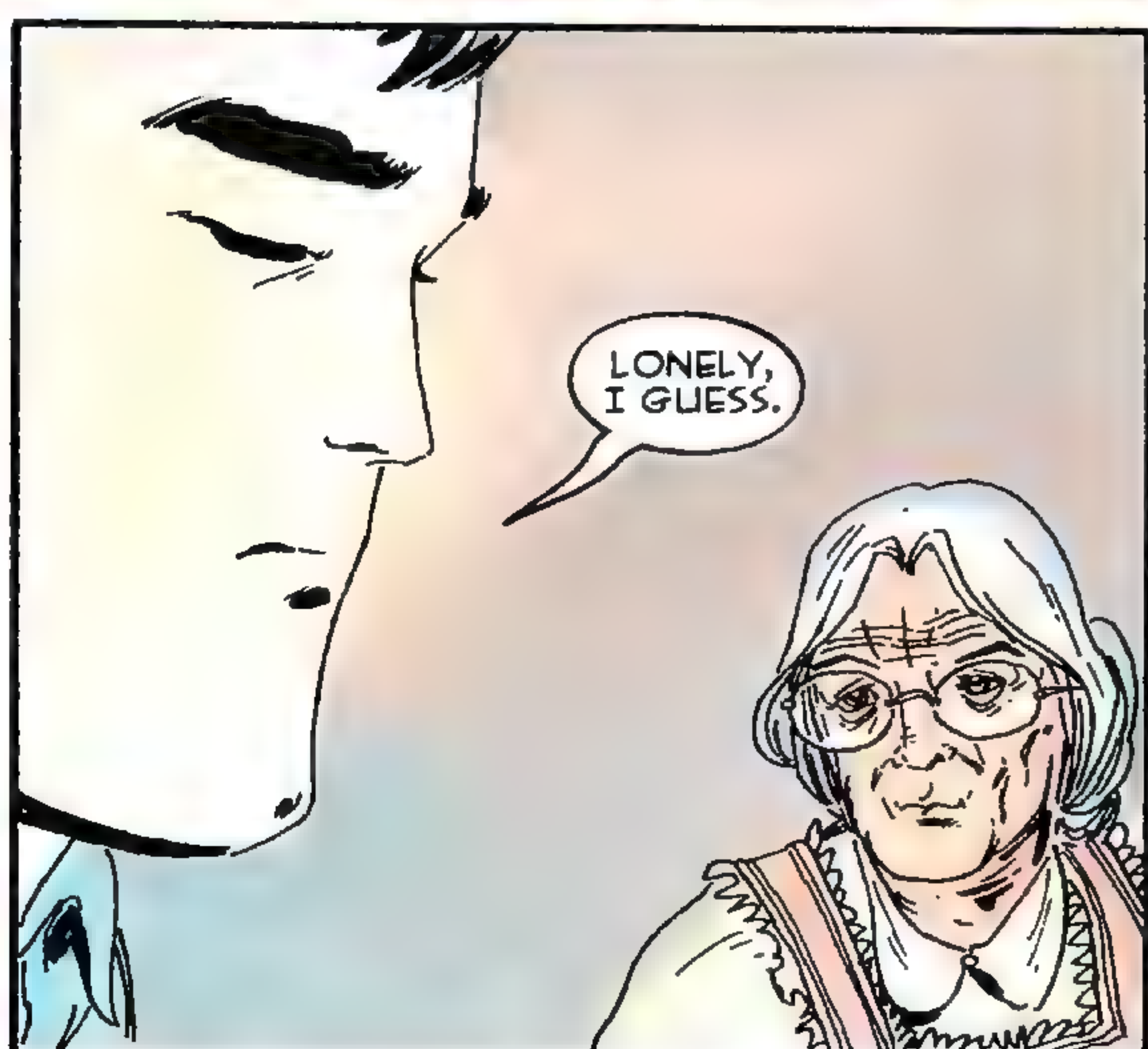
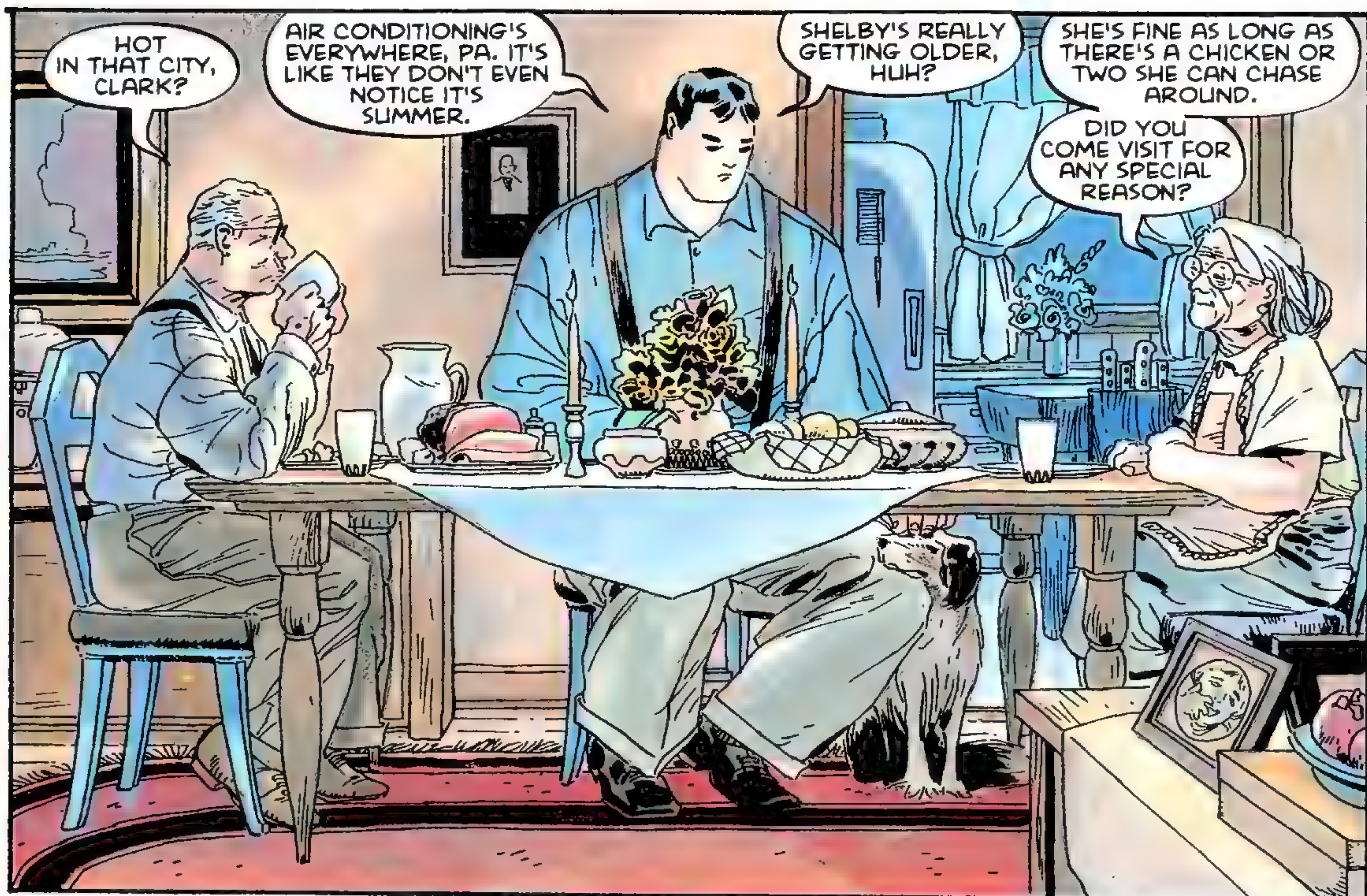
AND I'D KNOW YOUR FOOTSTEPS ANYWHERE, CLARK.

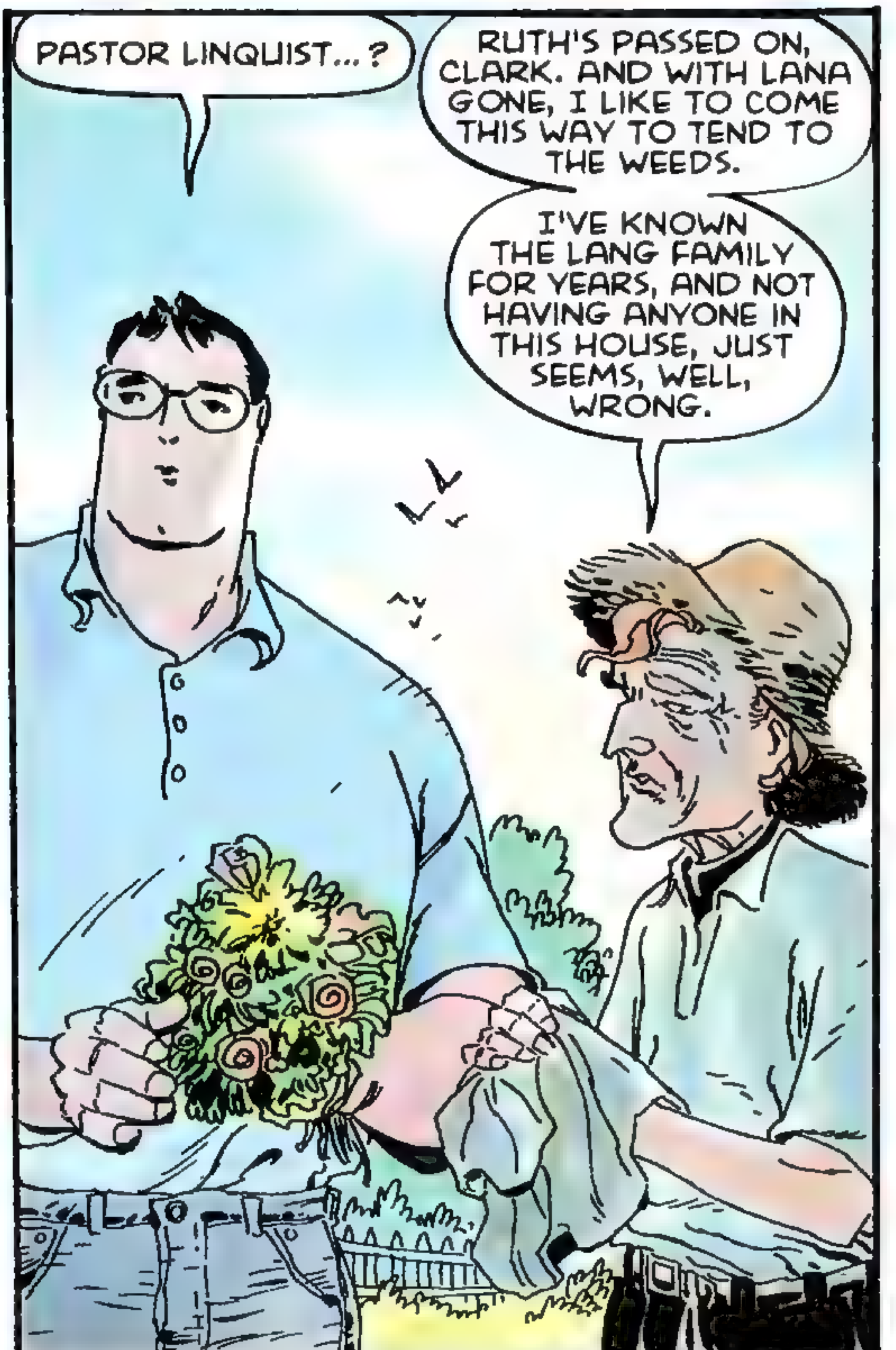
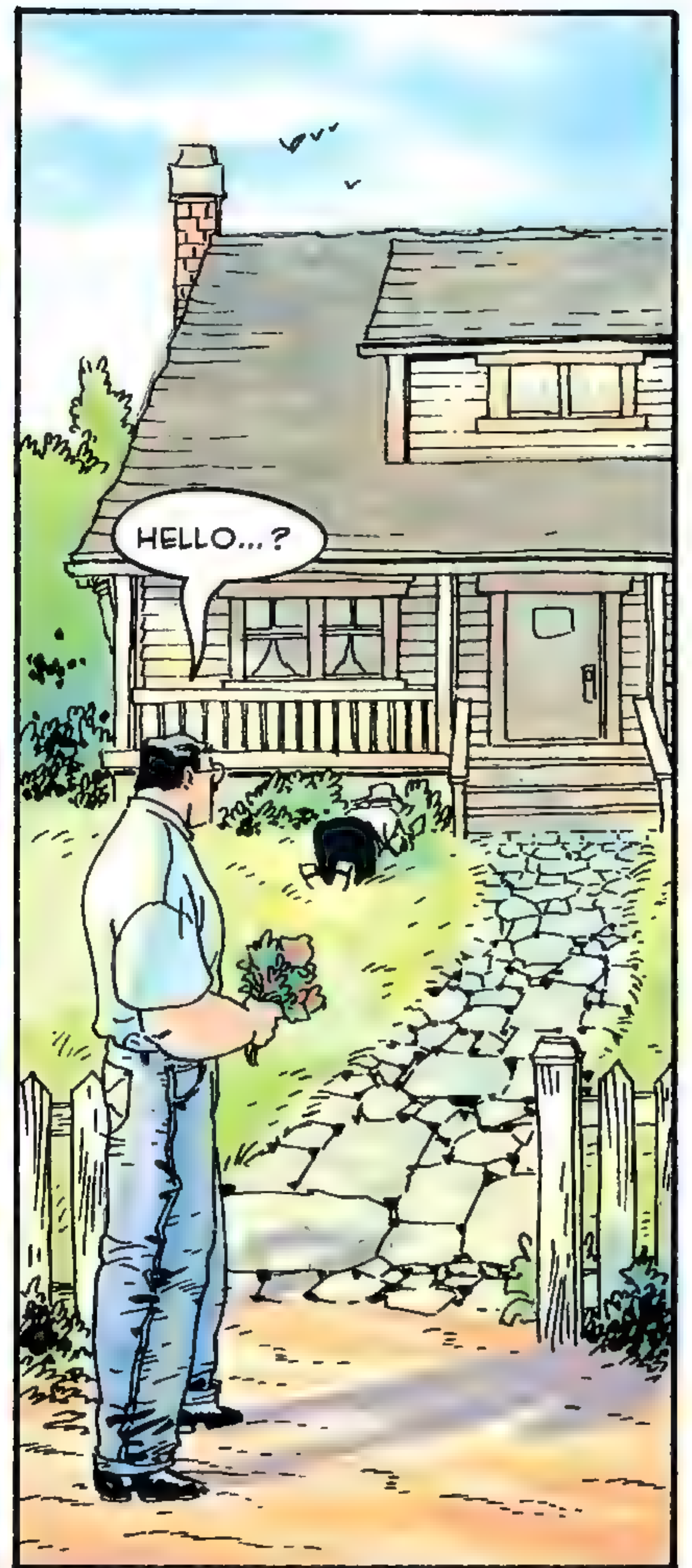


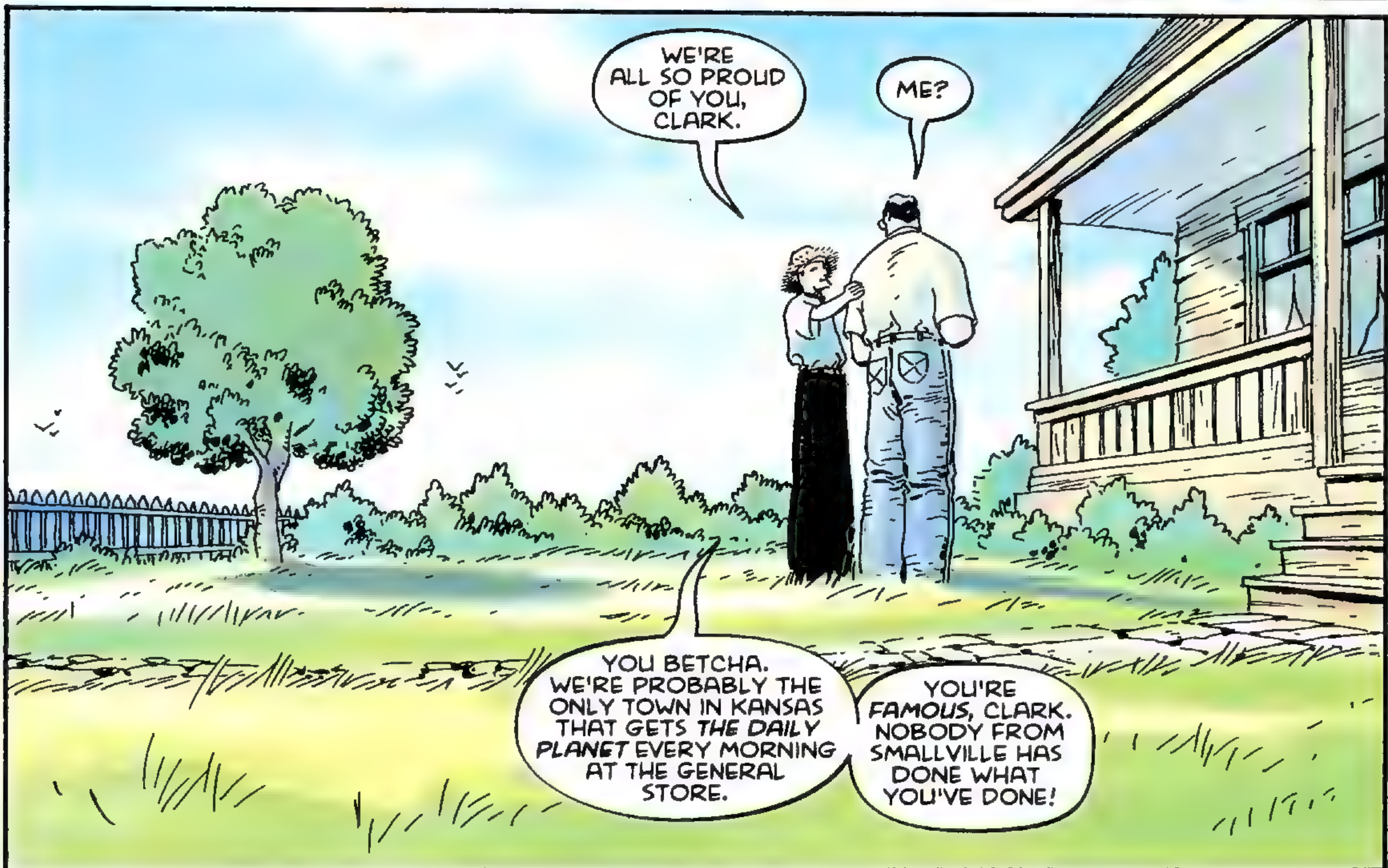
A "Fortress of Solitude"...

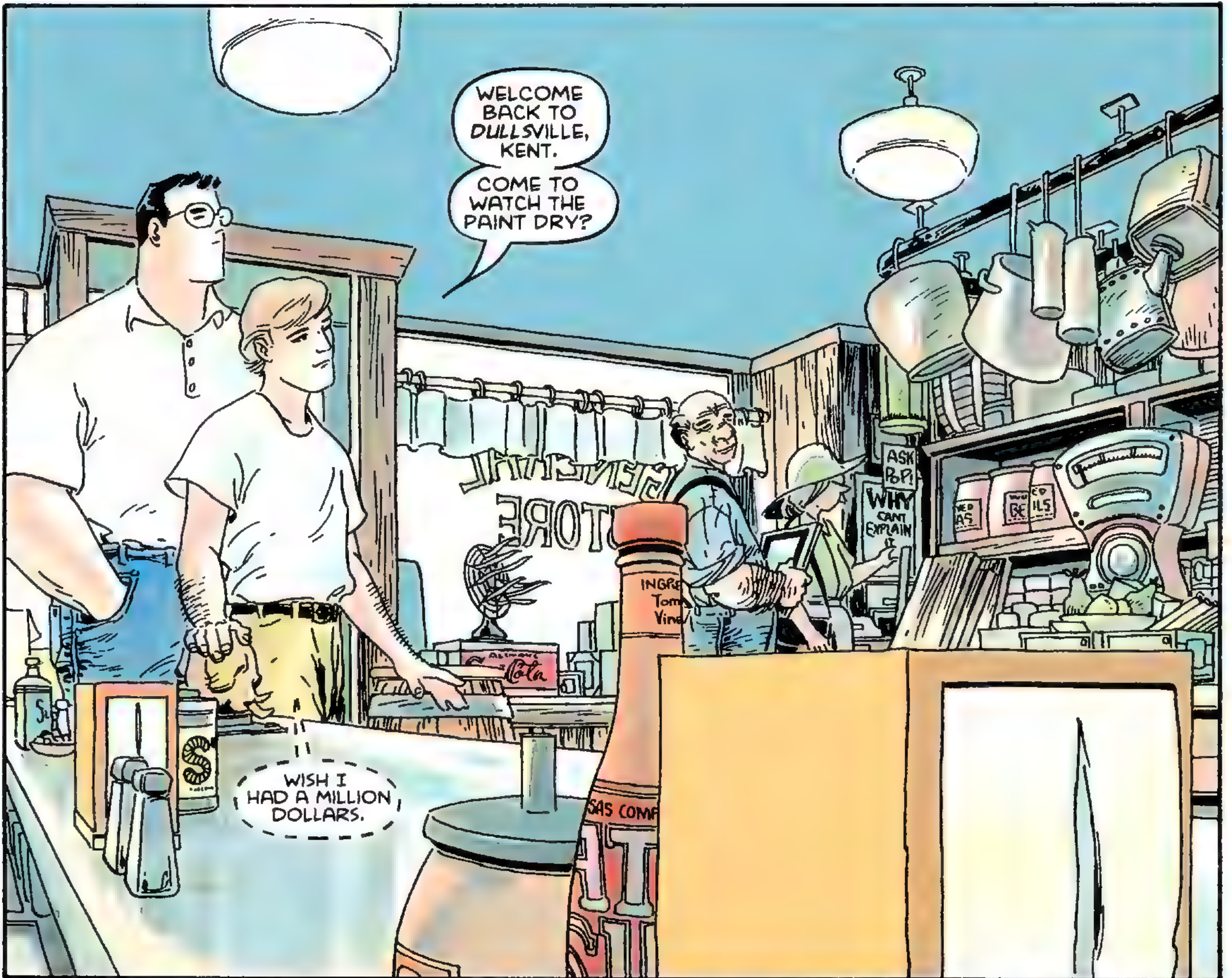
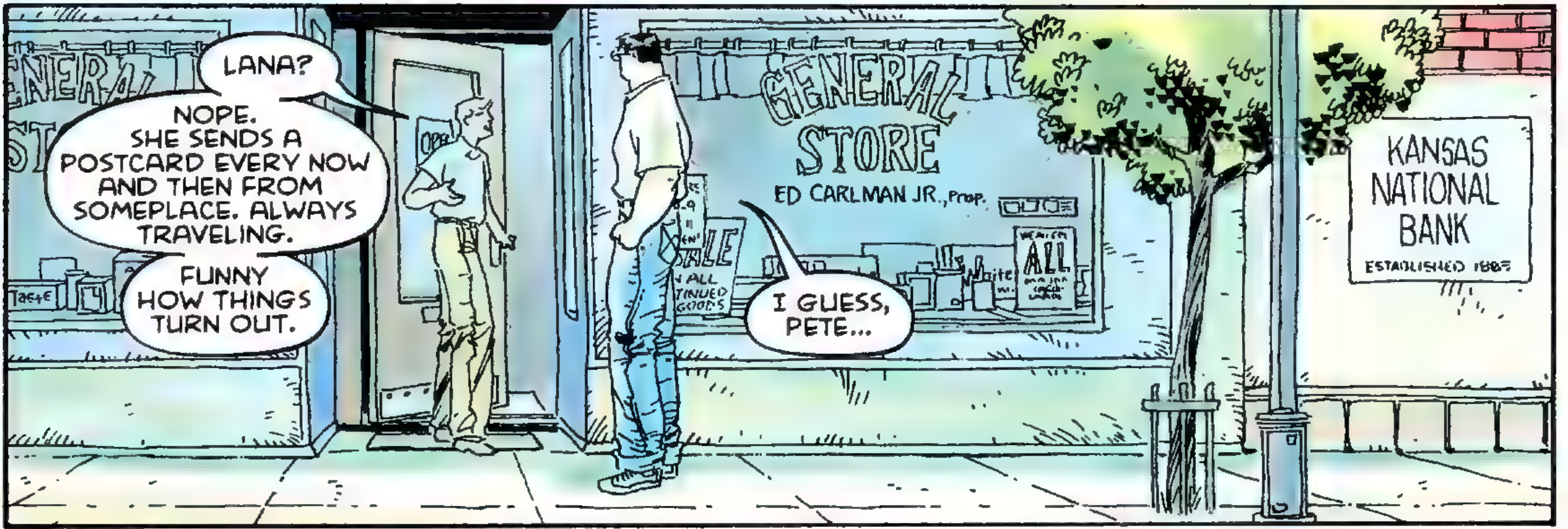
...I wonder if it
has a drawbridge?

WELCOME
HOME, SON. YOU
LOOK GOOD.











HOW WAS YOUR DAY WITH PETE?

HMM? IT WAS OKAY I GUESS.



IT'S JUST -- EVEN WITH ALL THE GOOD I'VE DONE? SOMETIMES...

... I SEEM OUT OF PLACE IN THE CITY.

AND I ALWAYS THOUGHT SMALLVILLE WOULD FEEL LIKE HOME.



NOW, IT'S DIFFERENT HERE, TOO.

IT'S ALL PART OF GROWING UP, CLARK. IT ISN'T ALWAYS EASY. IT ISN'T ALWAYS FUN.

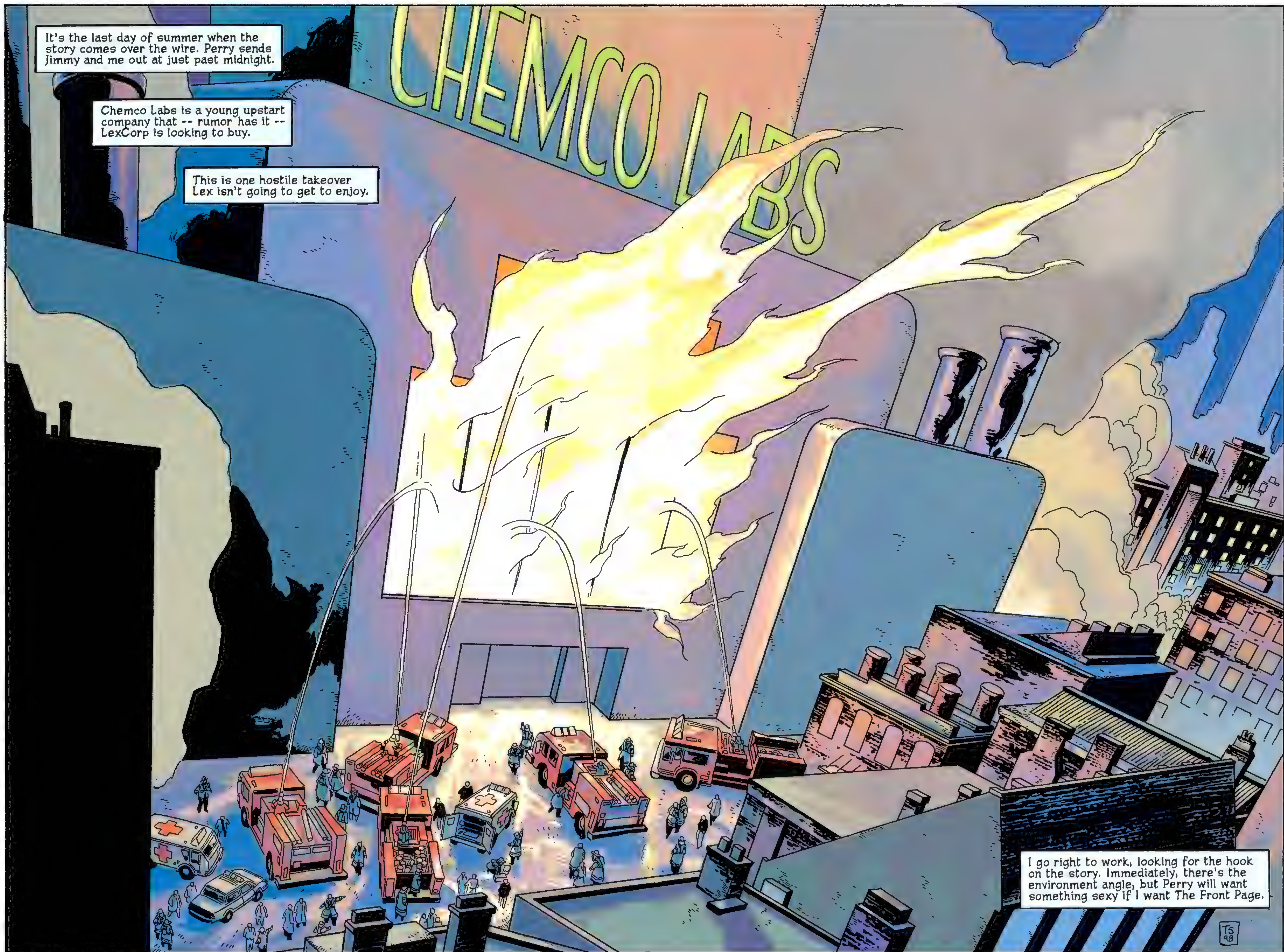


BUT, YOU'LL FIND YOUR OWN WAY. YOU ALWAYS HAVE...

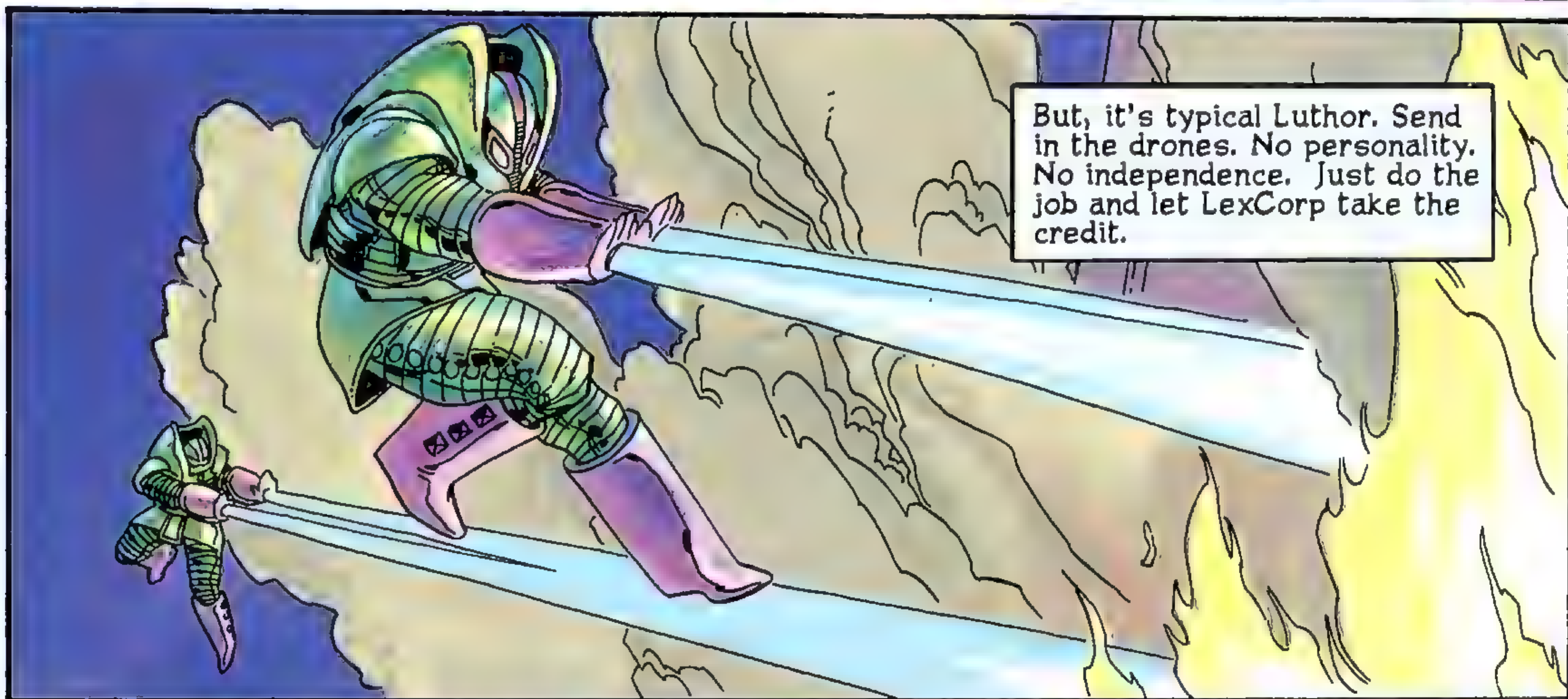
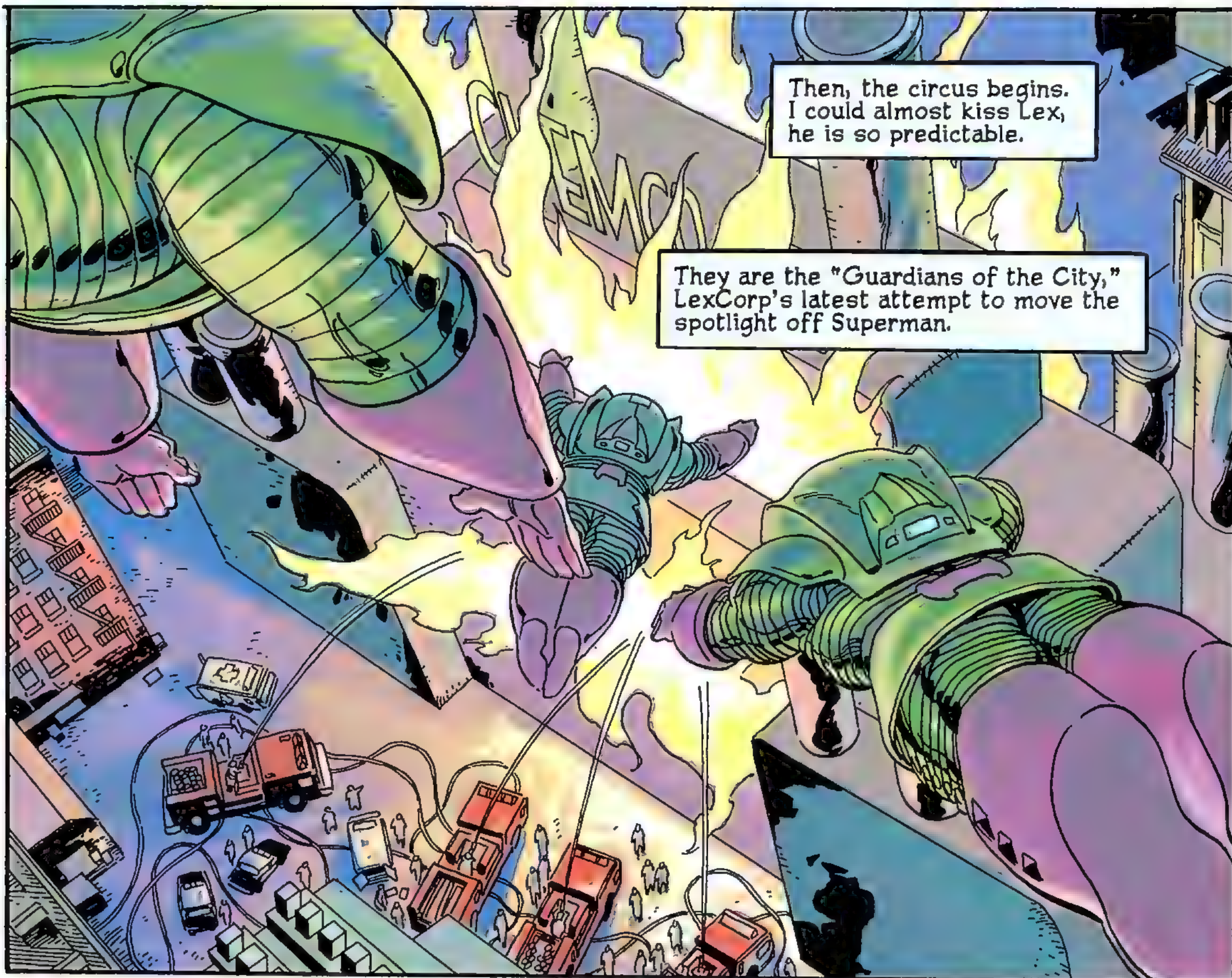
It's the last day of summer when the story comes over the wire. Perry sends Jimmy and me out at just past midnight.

Chemco Labs is a young upstart company that -- rumor has it -- LexCorp is looking to buy.

This is one hostile takeover Lex isn't going to get to enjoy.



I go right to work, looking for the hook on the story. Immediately, there's the environment angle, but Perry will want something sexy if I want The Front Page.

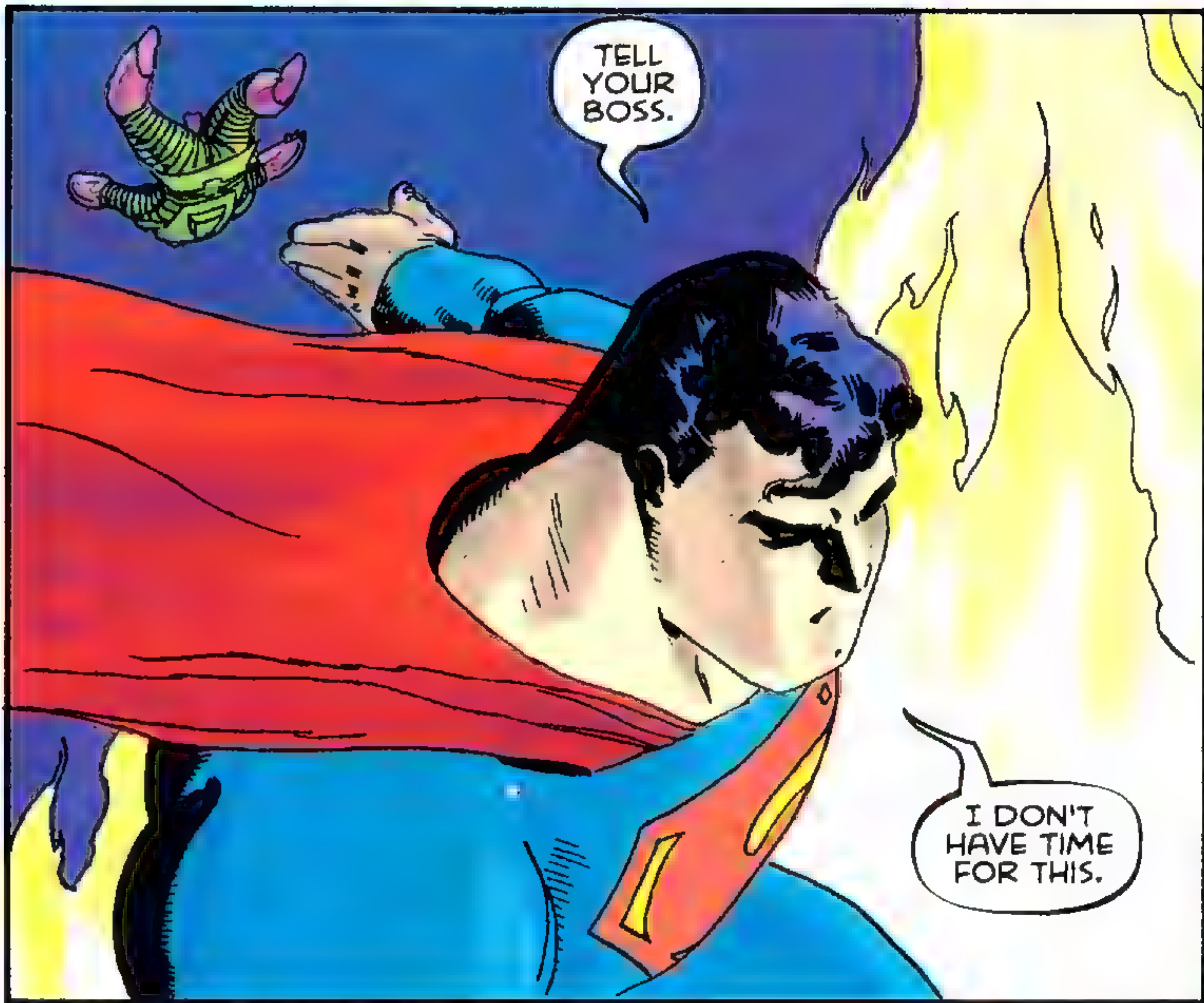




Suddenly, it happens.
What every reporter
waits for. I have my
hook.

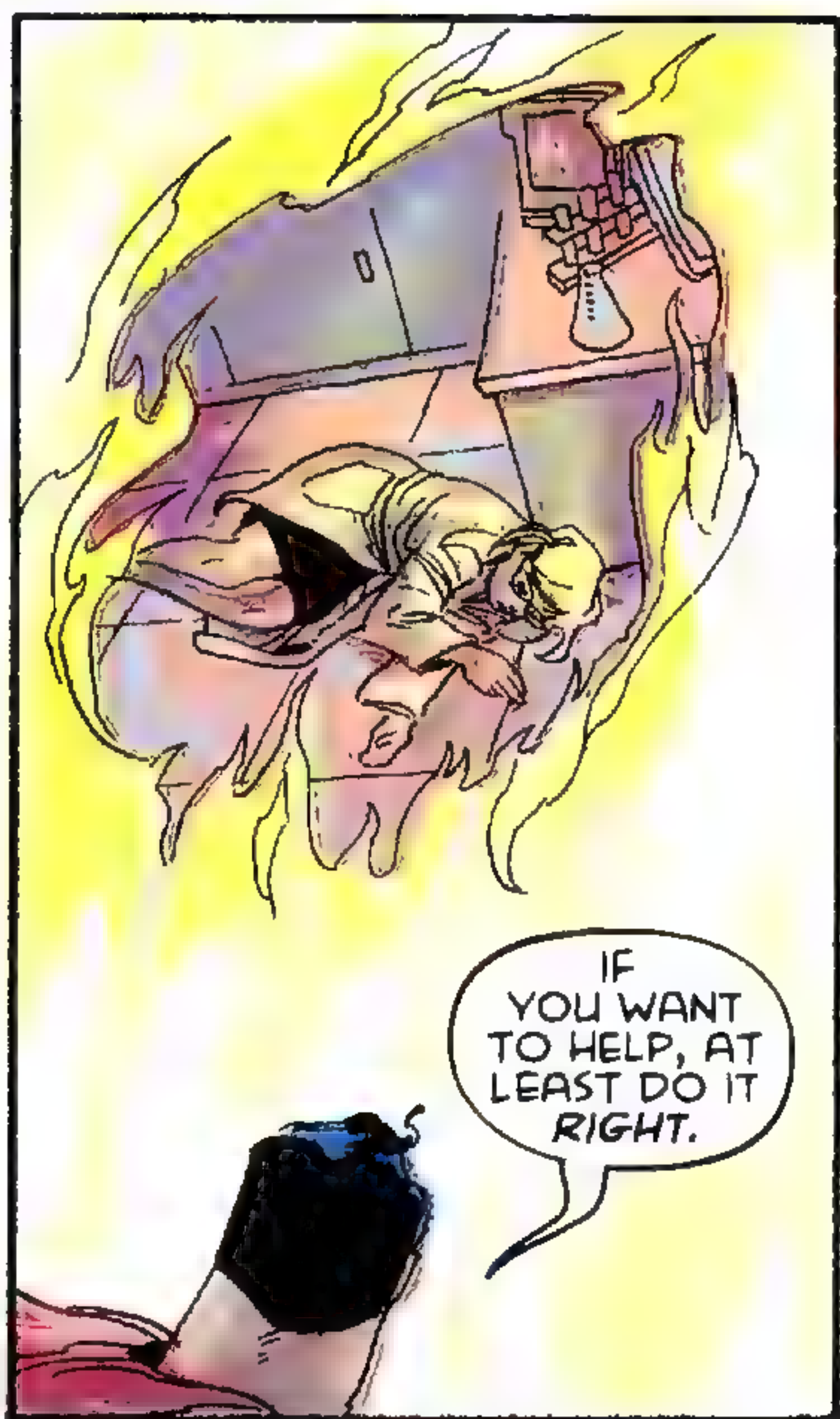
LEXCORP
HAS THE SITUATION
UNDER CONTROL,
SUPERMAN.

EVERYONE
HAS BEEN
EVACUATED. WE
SUGGEST YOU
LEAVE THE
SCENE.

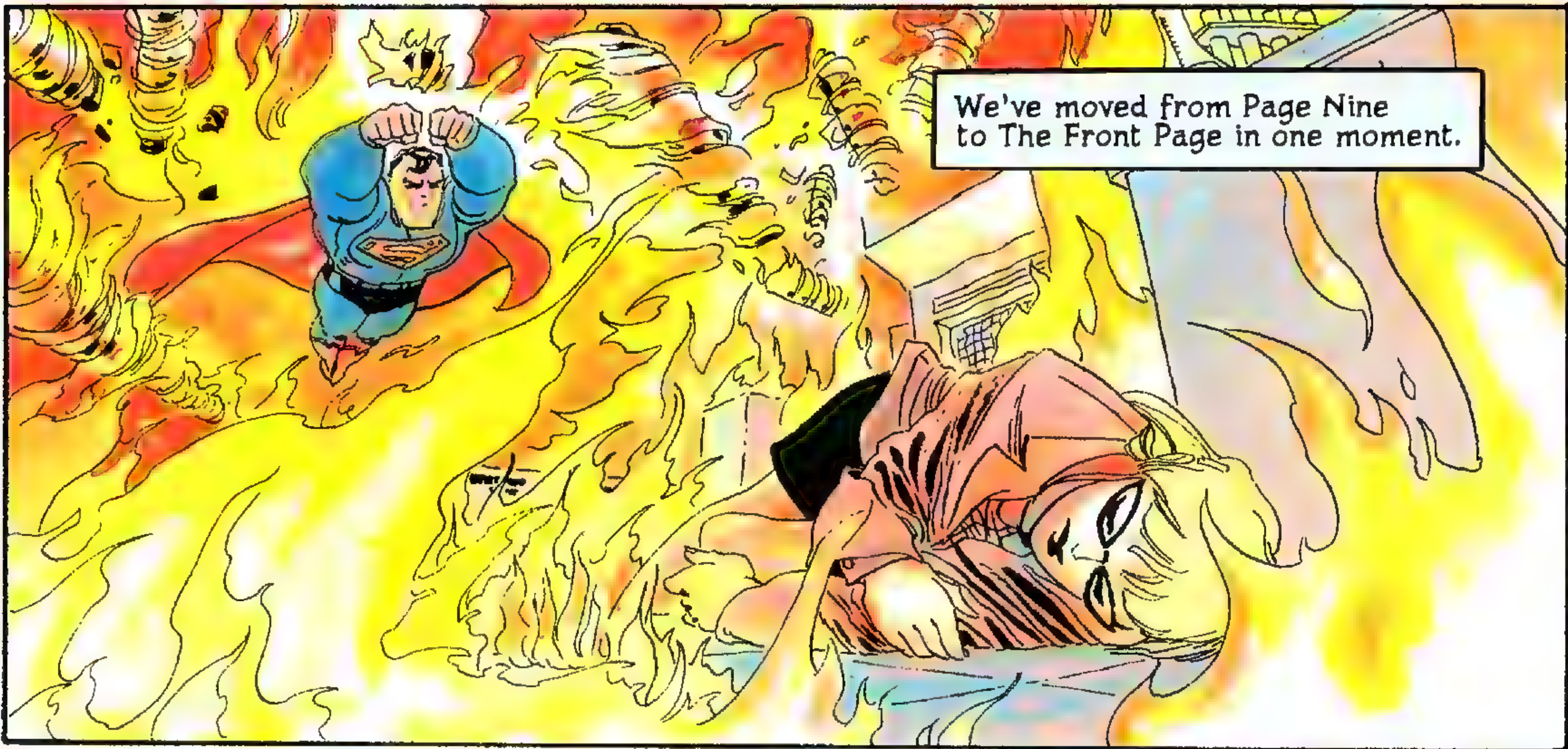


TELL
YOUR
BOSS.

I DON'T
HAVE TIME
FOR THIS.



IF
YOU WANT
TO HELP, AT
LEAST DO IT
RIGHT.



We've moved from Page Nine to The Front Page in one moment.



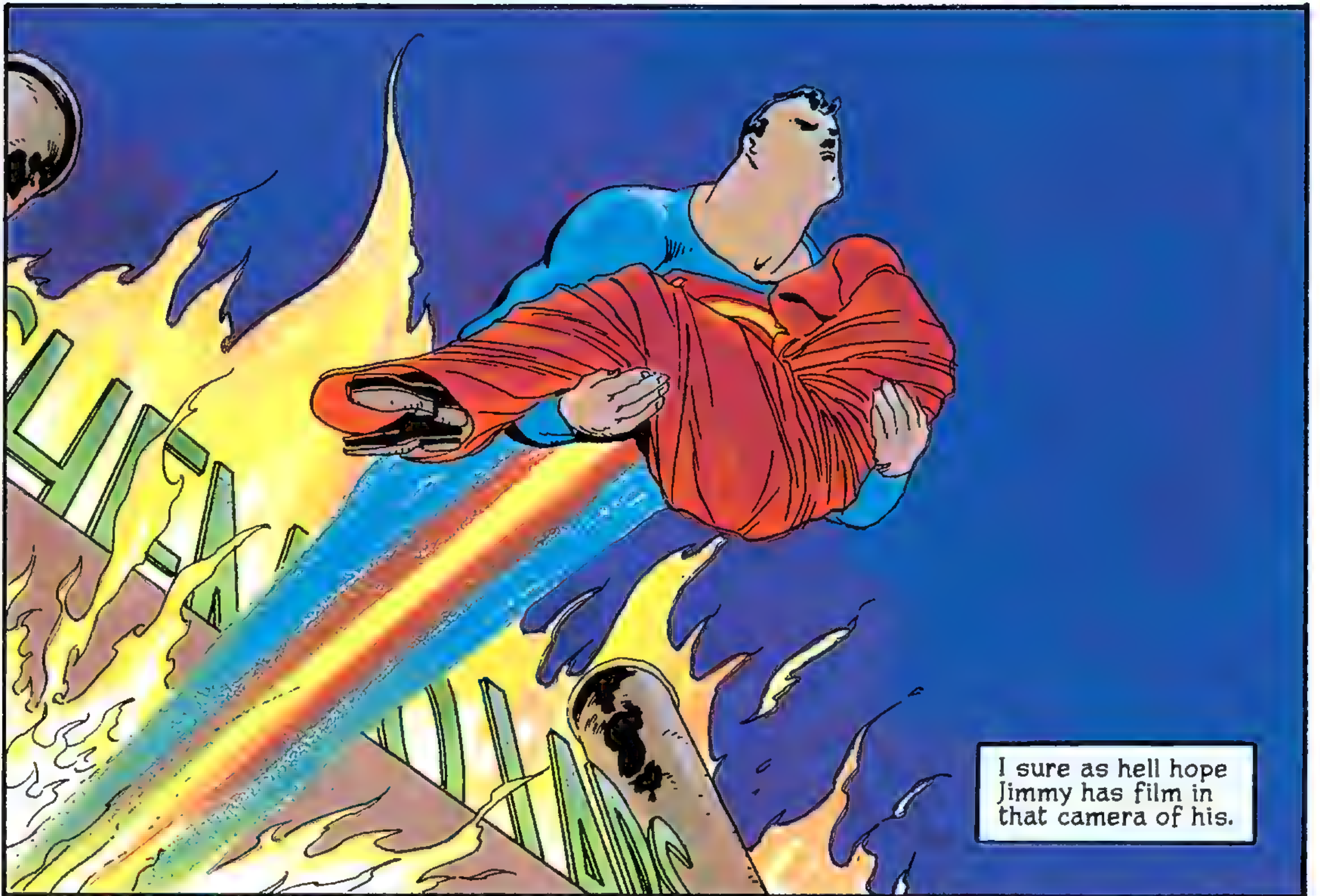
I have my story. The human element that sells newspapers.



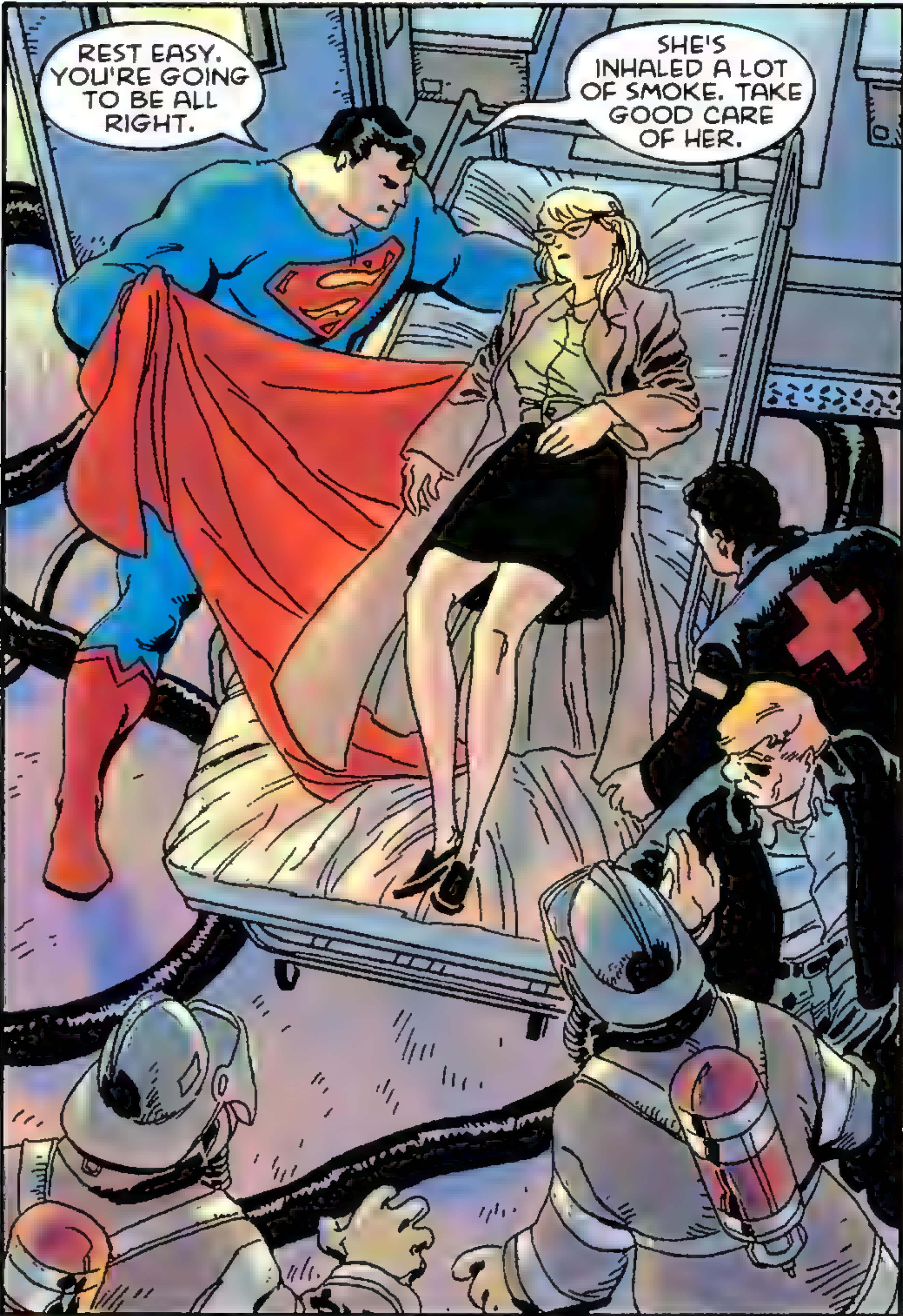
MISS...?



W-WHO -- SUPERMAN?



I sure as hell hope Jimmy has film in that camera of his.

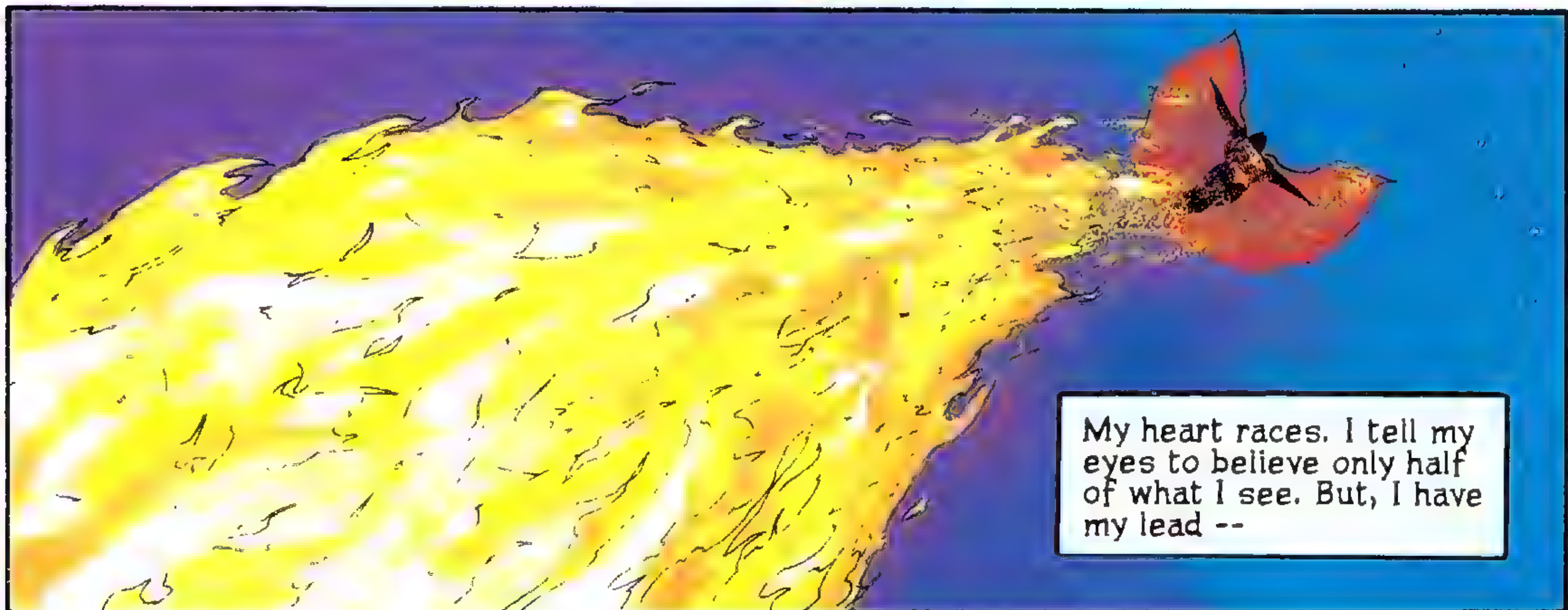
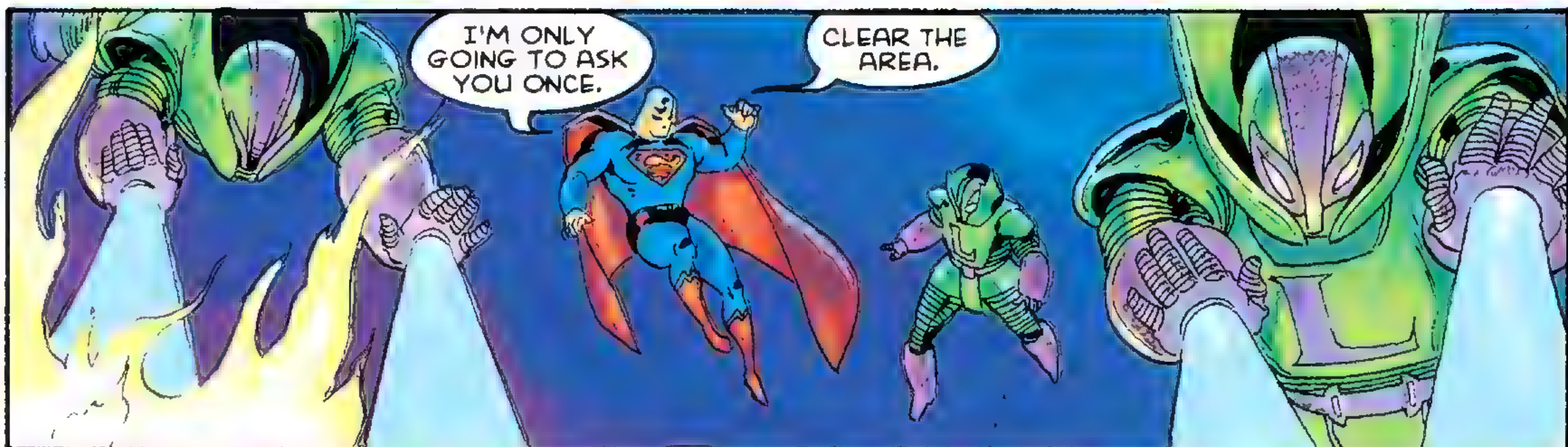


REST EASY. YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.

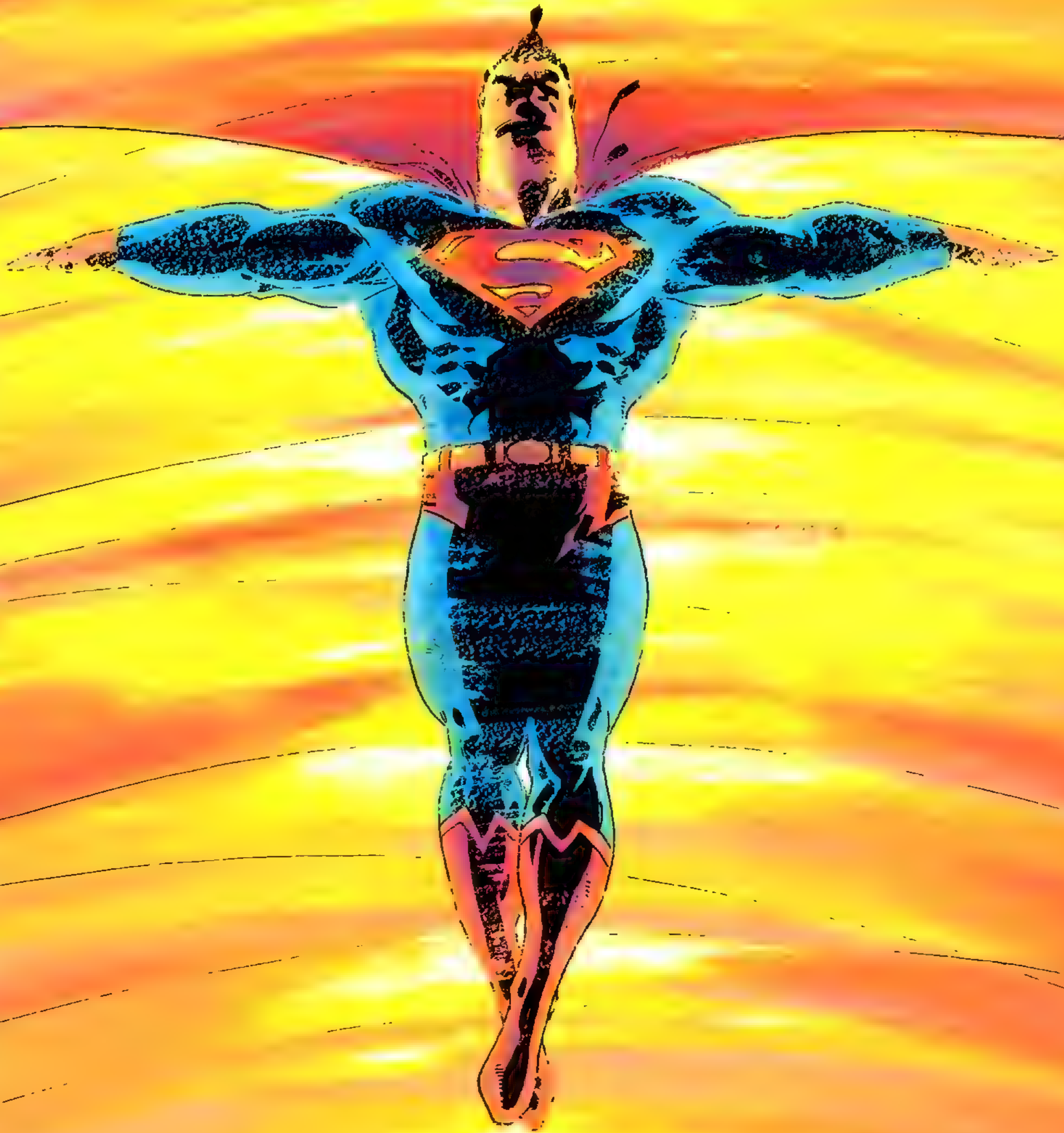
SHE'S INHALED A LOT OF SMOKE. TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER.

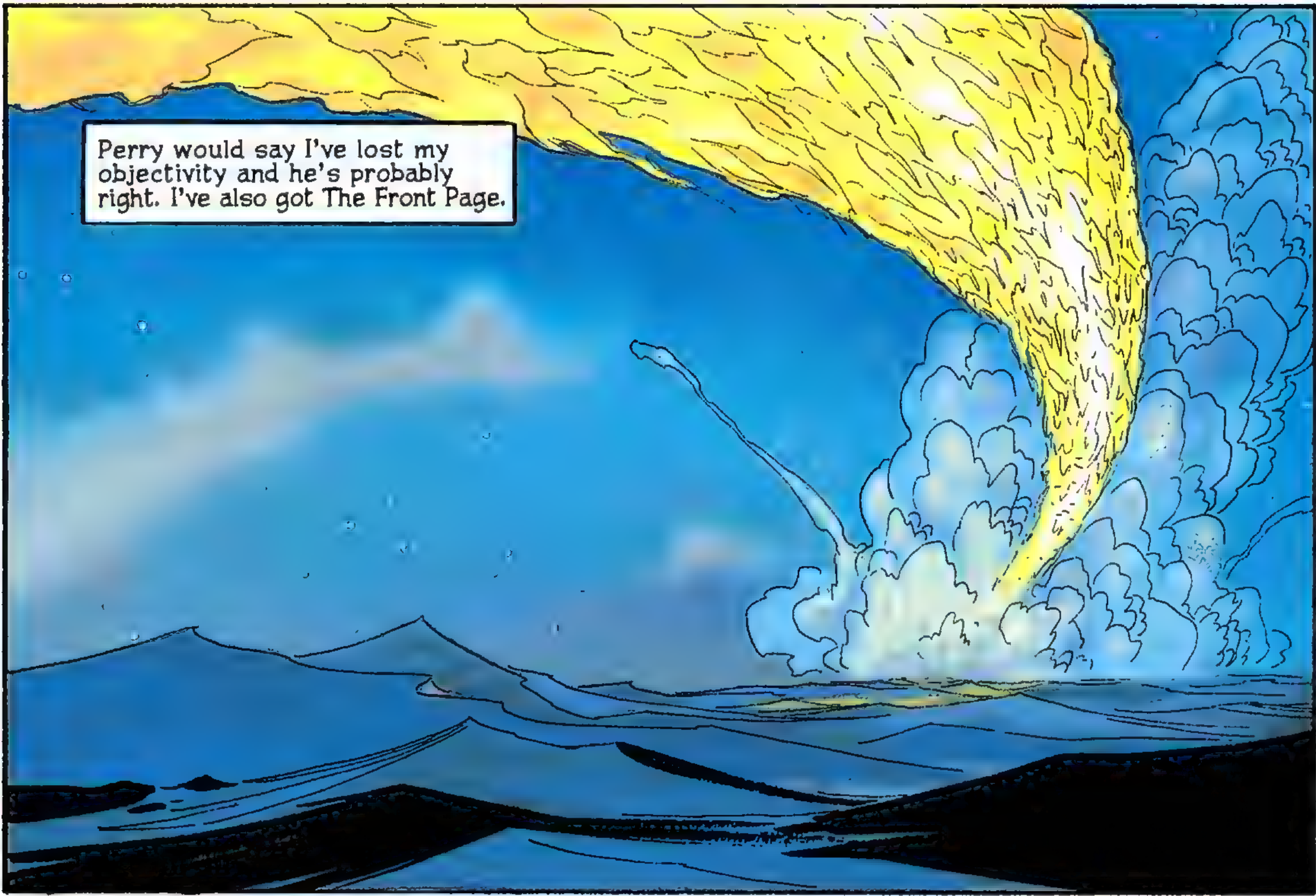


BLESS YOU...

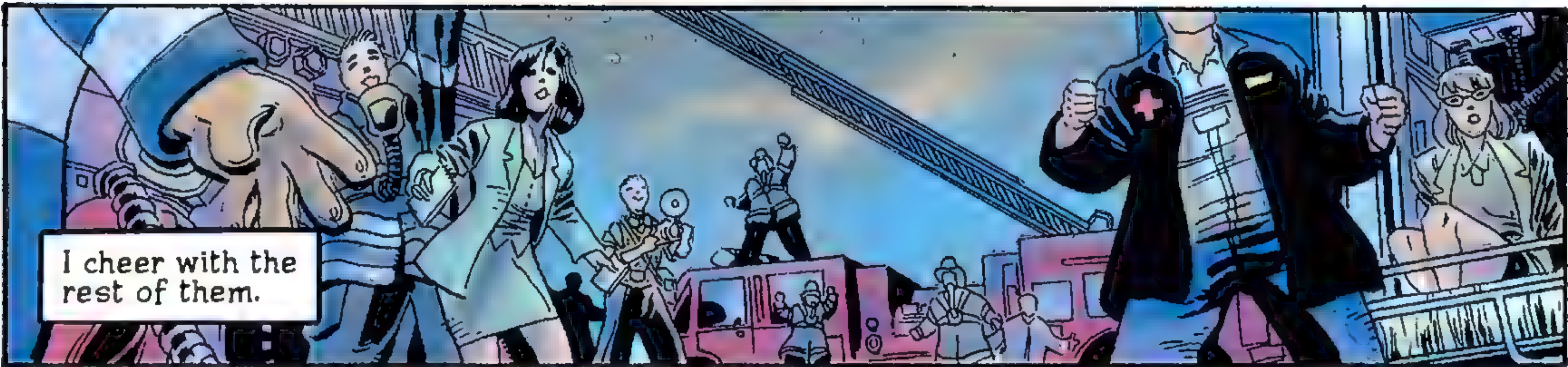


"This is a job
for Superman."





Perry would say I've lost my objectivity and he's probably right. I've also got The Front Page.



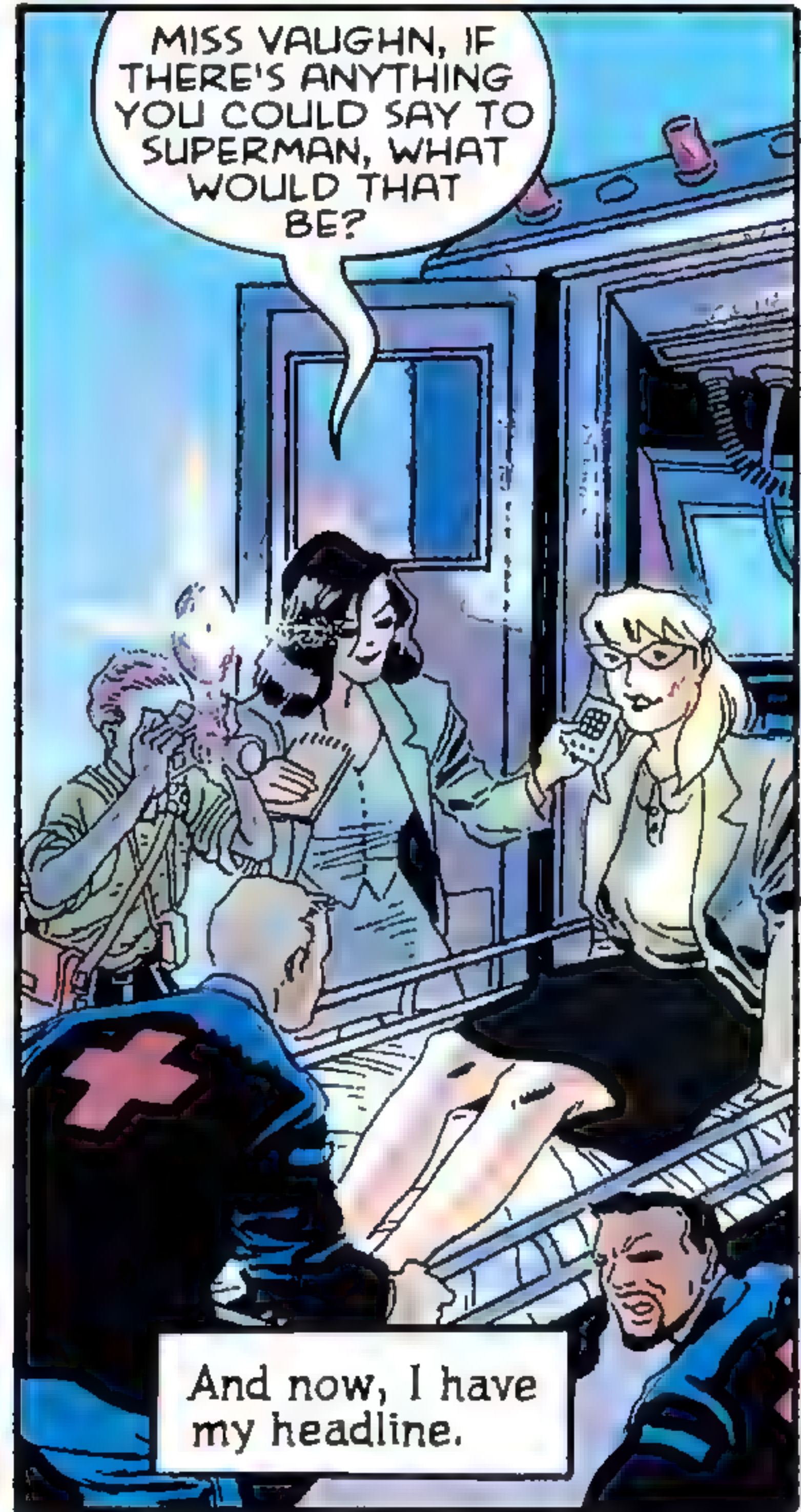
I cheer with the rest of them.



GO HOME WITH YOUR TAILS BETWEEN YOUR LEGS.

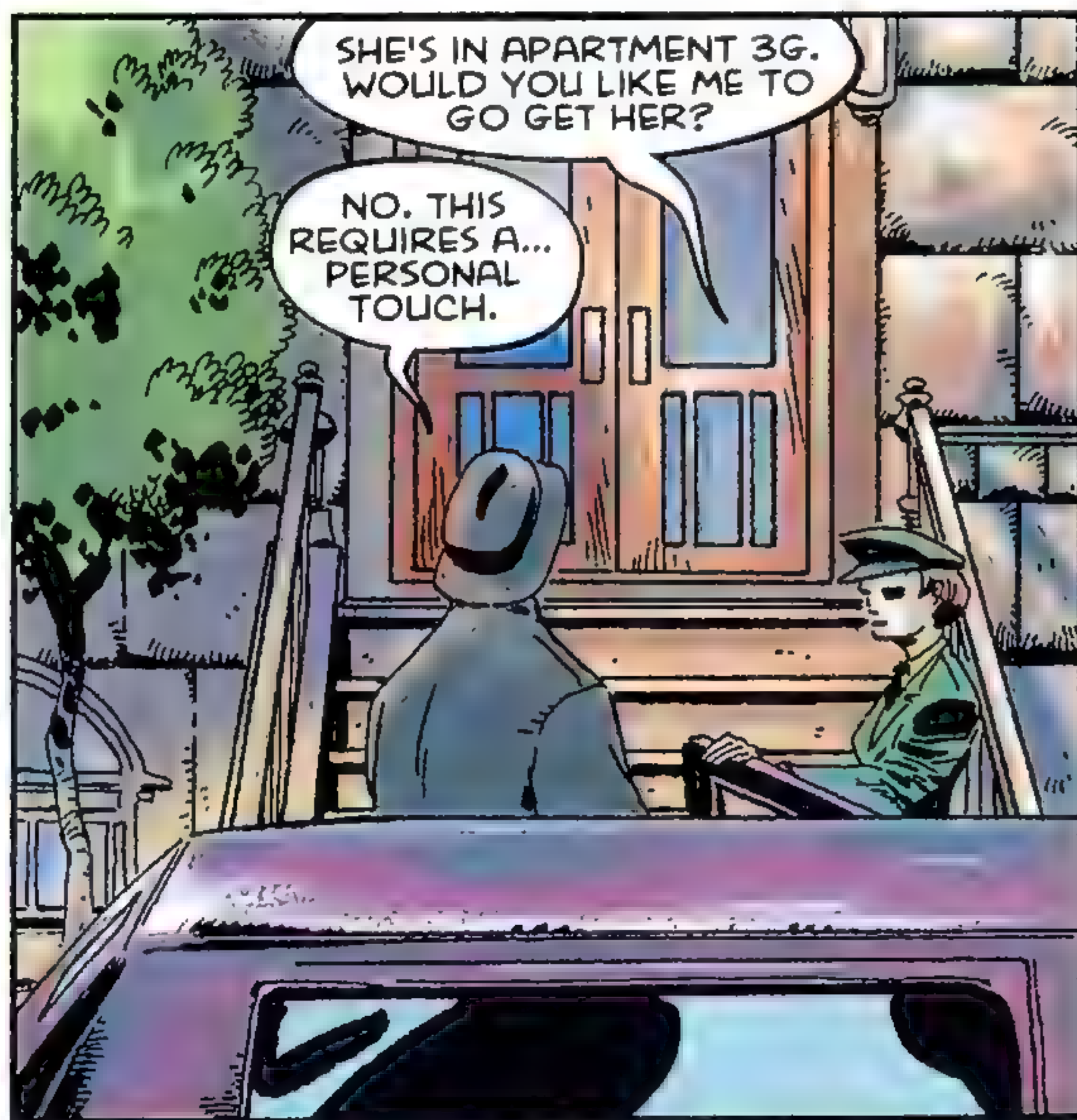
A WOMAN ALMOST DIED FROM YOUR CARELESSNESS.

IF IT HAPPENS AGAIN, I'LL HOLD LUTHOR PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE.



MISS VAUGHN, IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU COULD SAY TO SUPERMAN, WHAT WOULD THAT BE?

And now, I have my headline.





WELCOME TO
METROPOLIS
Home of Superman!

THEN,
TOGETHER, MY
DEAR, WE CAN HELP
SUPERMAN IN WAYS
YOU'VE ONLY
DREAMED OF...

YOU ARE NOW
LEAVING

METROPOLIS
Home of Superman!

DAILY PLANET
"HE IS MY
ANGEL"

DAILY PLANET
A NEW
HERO

DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN

"ANGEL"
SHE SAYS

NEW
HERO
IN TOWN

MAN
OF
STEEL

CLUES
CHILD
FROM
BUS

There isn't a day when
I don't think about
Perry's three rules.

And even though a
"Superman" flies in
the face of them --
literally --

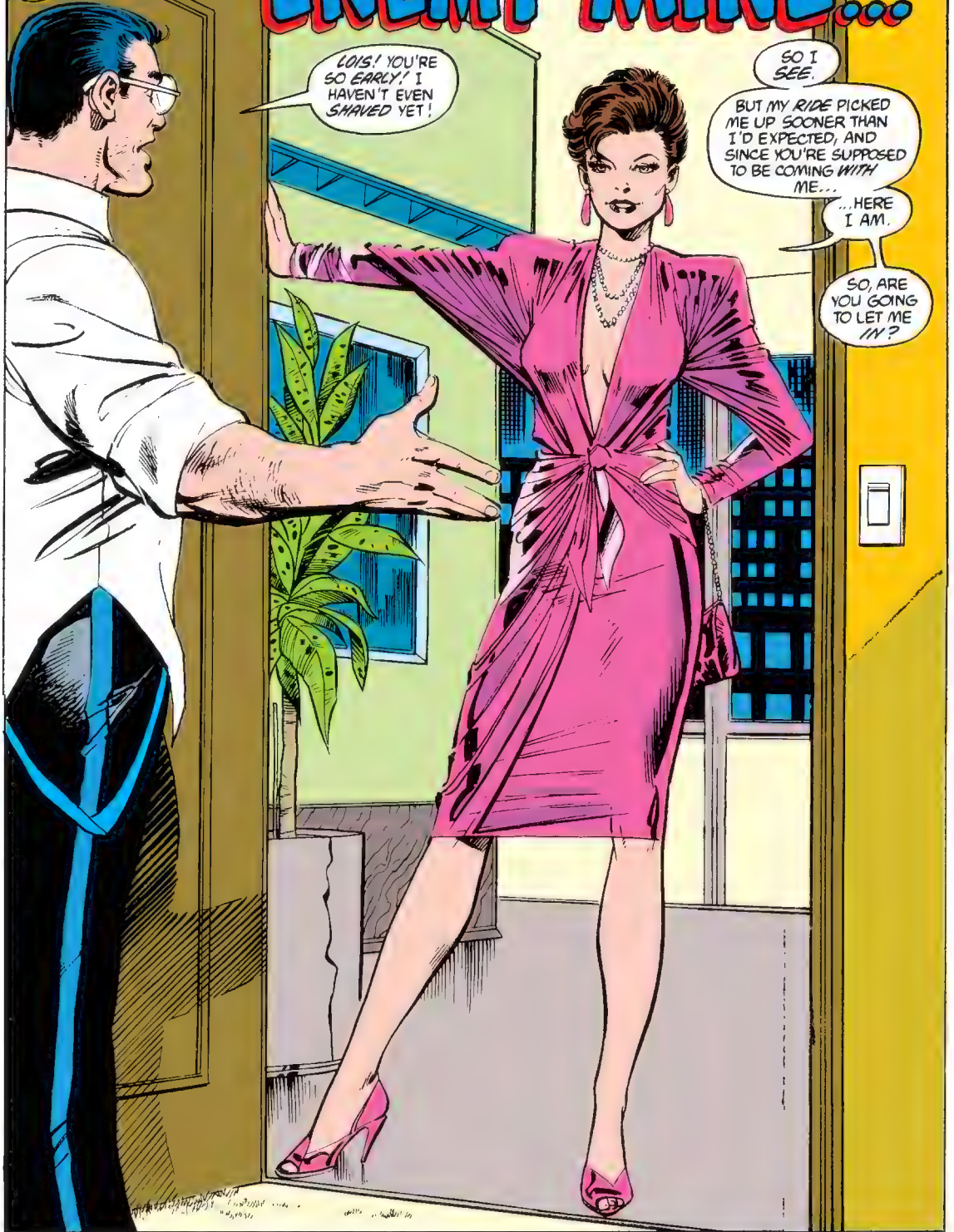
-- as long as I believe
everything I write, I'll
sign my name to it:

"By Lois Lane."

BOOK FOUR

SUPERMAN

ENEMY MINE...



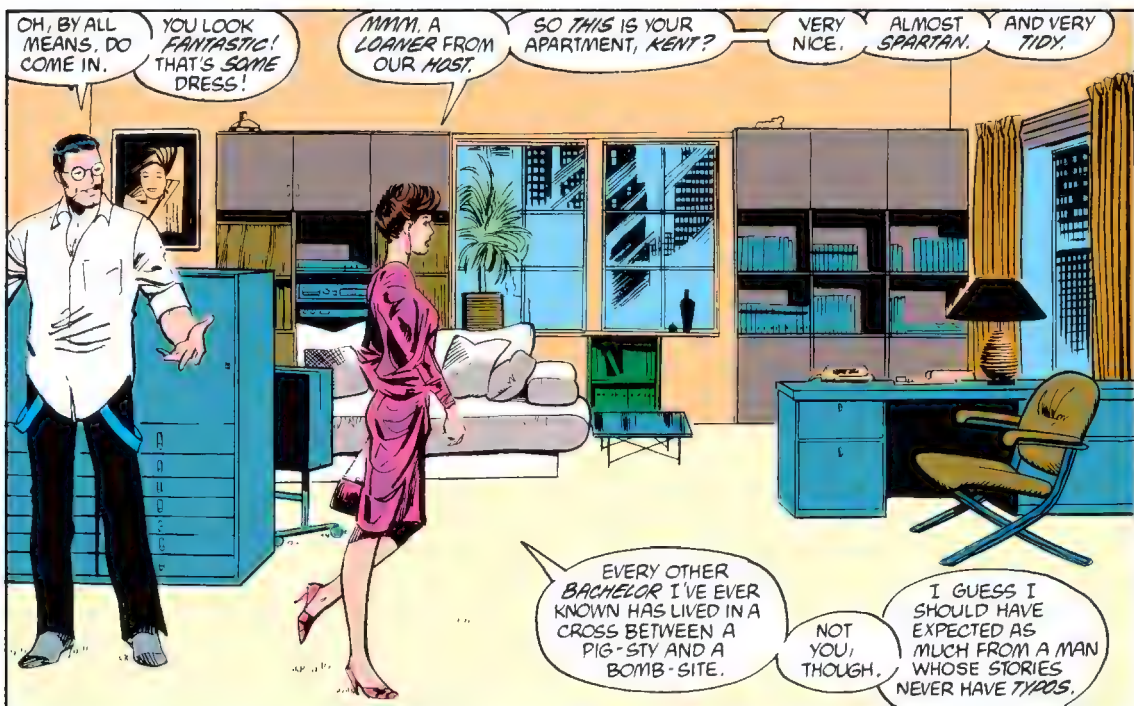
LOIS! YOU'RE
SO EARLY! I
HAVEN'T EVEN
SHAVED YET!

SO I
SEE.

BUT MY RIDE PICKED
ME UP SOONER THAN
I'D EXPECTED, AND
SINCE YOU'RE SUPPOSED
TO BE COMING WITH
ME...

...HERE
I AM.

SO, ARE
YOU GOING
TO LET ME
IN?



OH, BY ALL MEANS. DO COME IN.

YOU LOOK FANTASTIC! THAT'S SOME DRESS!

MMM. A LOANER FROM OUR HOST.

SO THIS IS YOUR APARTMENT, KENT?

VERY NICE.

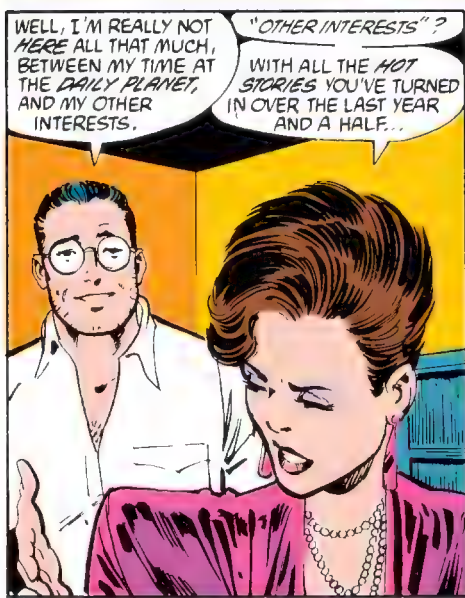
ALMOST SPARTAN.

AND VERY TIDY.

EVERY OTHER BACHELOR I'VE EVER KNOWN HAS LIVED IN A CROSS BETWEEN A PIG-STY AND A BOMB-SITE.

NOT YOU, THOUGH.

I GUESS I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED AS MUCH FROM A MAN WHOSE STORIES NEVER HAVE TYPOS.



WELL, I'M REALLY NOT HERE ALL THAT MUCH, BETWEEN MY TIME AT THE DAILY PLANET, AND MY OTHER INTERESTS.

"OTHER INTERESTS"?

WITH ALL THE HOT STORIES YOU'VE TURNED IN OVER THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF...



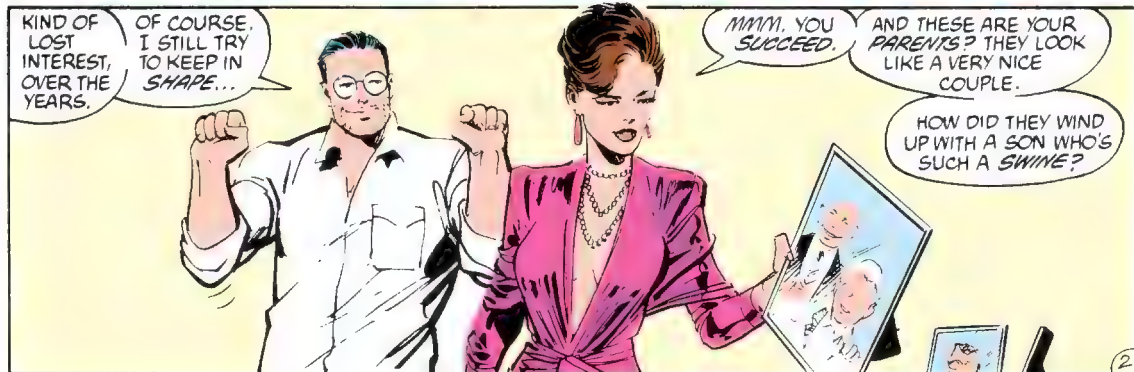
...I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR YOU HAVE TIME FOR ANYTHING THAT ISN'T STRICTLY JOB RELATED.

?

THIS IS YOU?

WHY, YES.

I PLAYED A LITTLE FOOTBALL IN HIGH SCHOOL.



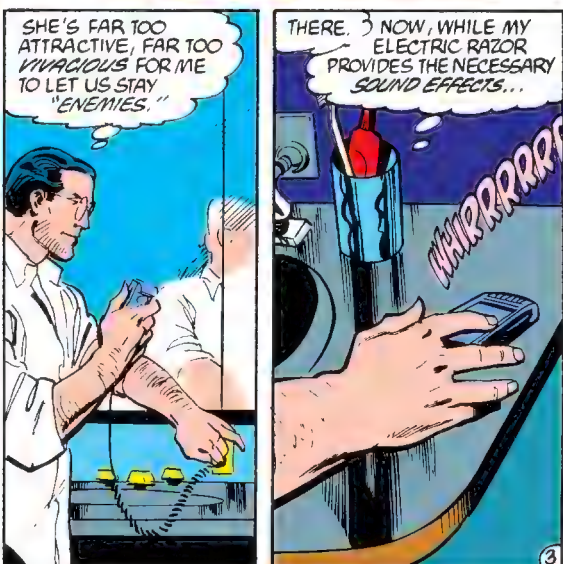
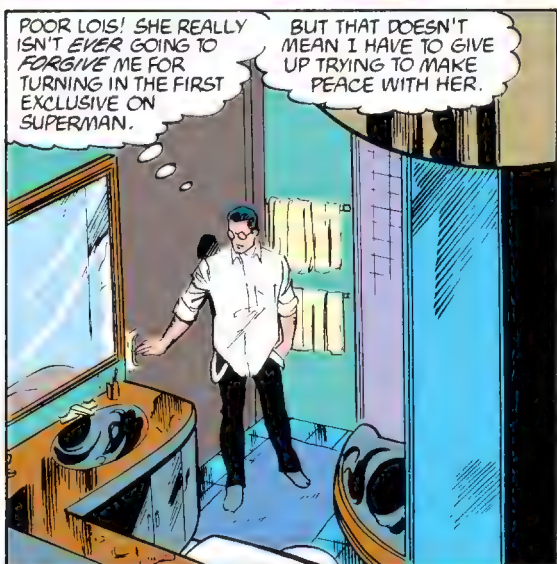
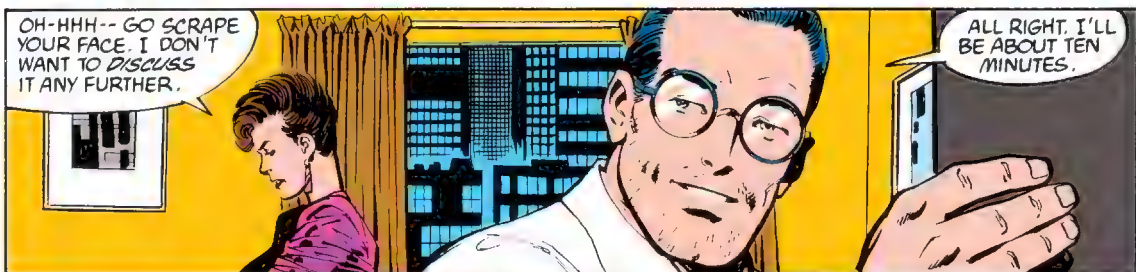
KIND OF LOST INTEREST, OVER THE YEARS.

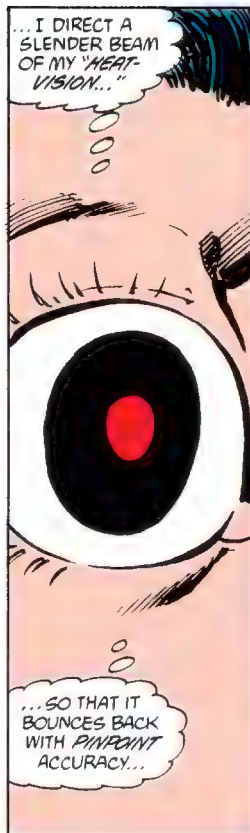
OF COURSE. I STILL TRY TO KEEP IN SHAPE...

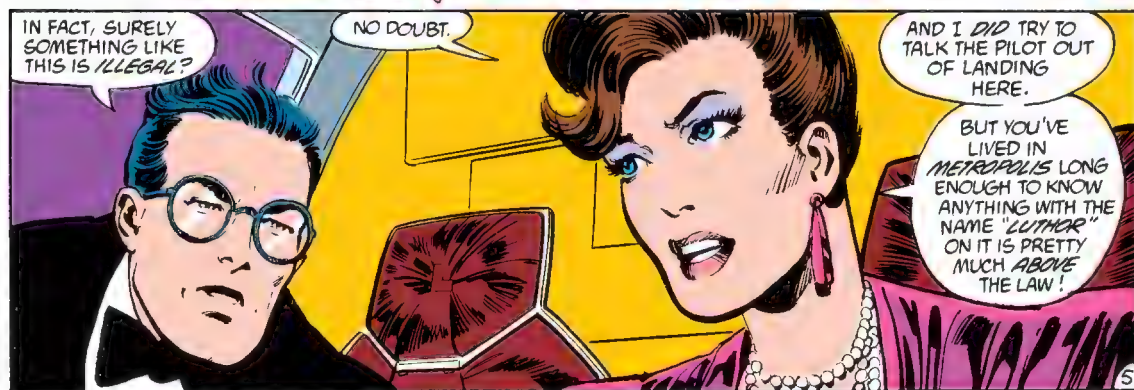
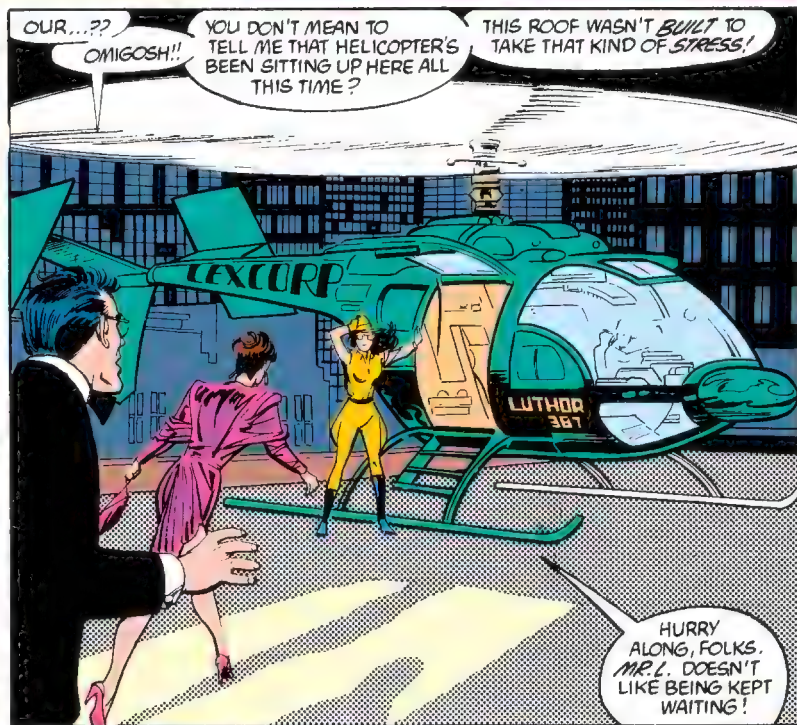
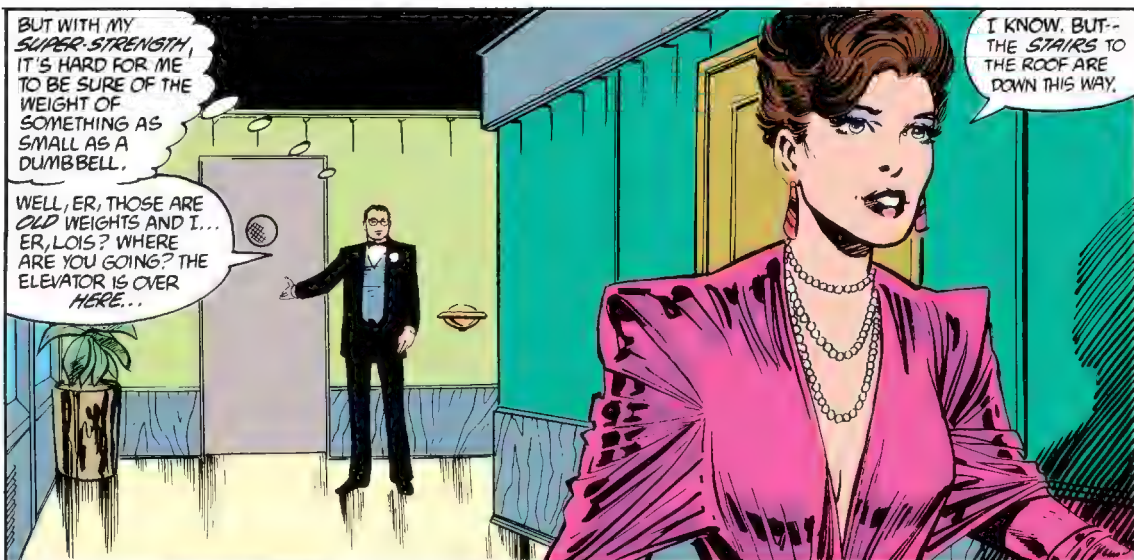
MMM. YOU SUCCEED.

AND THESE ARE YOUR PARENTS? THEY LOOK LIKE A VERY NICE COUPLE.

HOW DID THEY WIND UP WITH A SON WHO'S SUCH A SWINE?









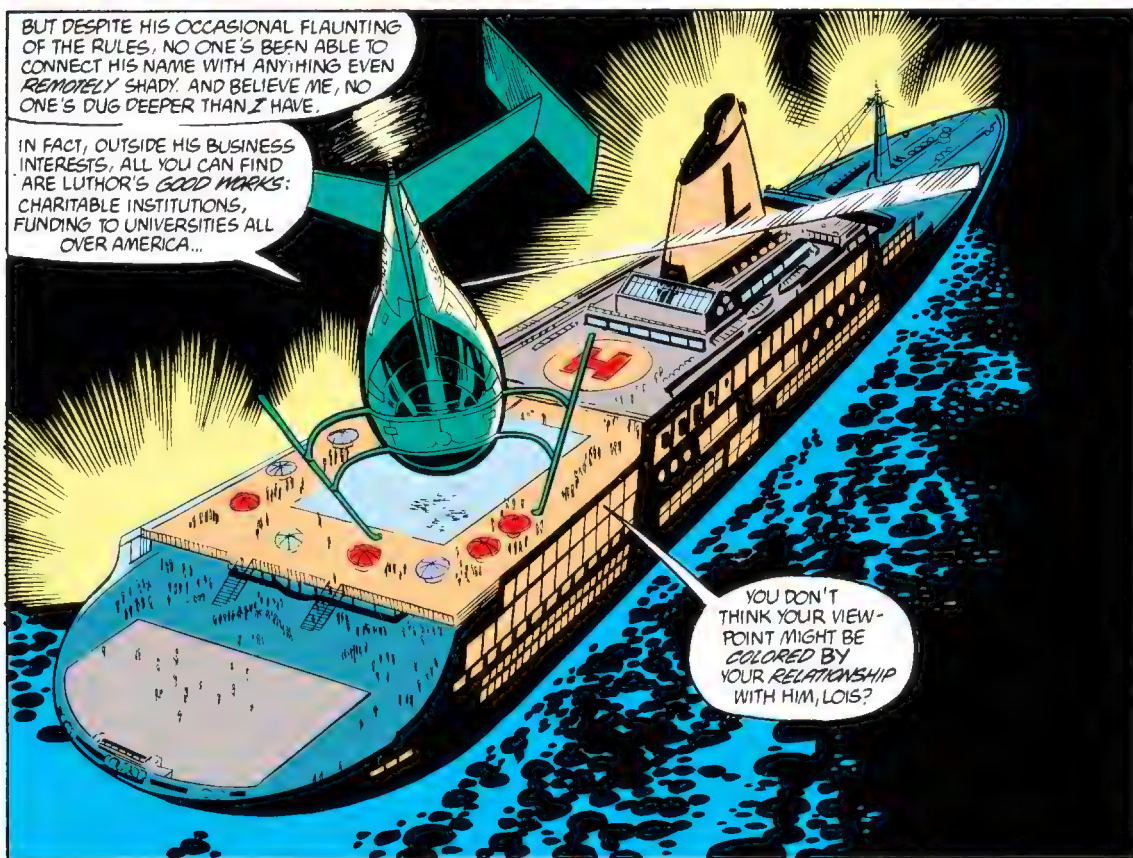
AND YOU APPROVE OF THAT, LOIS?

NO. BUT IT DOESN'T DO MUCH GOOD TO DISAPPROVE. LEX LUTHOR OWNS THIS TOWN, KENT.



LEXCORP HAS AN INTEREST IN VIRTUALLY EVERY BUSINESS BASED IN METROPOLIS.

LEX HIMSELF IS THE SECOND OR THIRD RICHEST MAN IN THE WORLD. AND EASILY ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL.



BUT DESPITE HIS OCCASIONAL FLAUNTING OF THE RULES, NO ONE'S BEEN ABLE TO CONNECT HIS NAME WITH ANYTHING EVEN REMOTELY SHADY. AND BELIEVE ME, NO ONE'S DUG DEEPER THAN I HAVE.

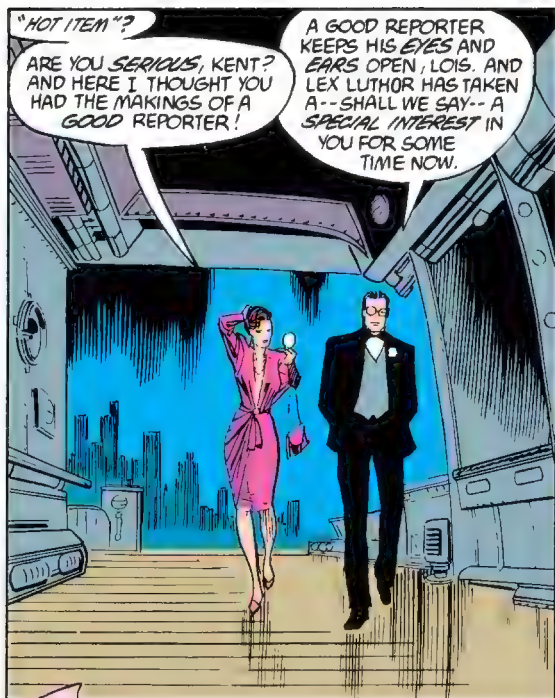
IN FACT, OUTSIDE HIS BUSINESS INTERESTS, ALL YOU CAN FIND ARE LUTHOR'S GOOD WORKS: CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, FUNDING TO UNIVERSITIES ALL OVER AMERICA...

YOU DON'T THINK YOUR VIEW-POINT MIGHT BE COLORED BY YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, LOIS?



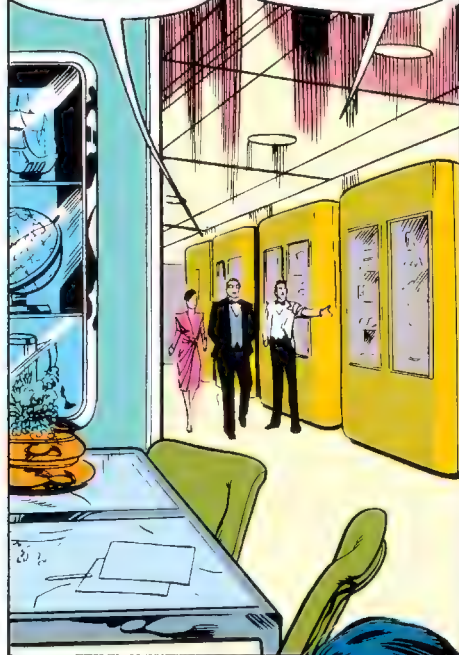
RELATIONSHIP, KENT?

WELL, EVERYONE IN METROPOLIS KNOWS LOIS LANE AND LEX LUTHOR ARE A PRETTY HOT ITEM!

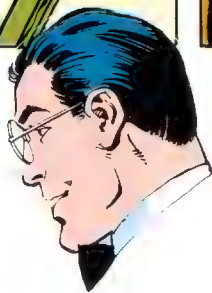


AND SO... THIS IS REALLY QUITE THE SHIP, ISN'T IT? I DOUBT THE ROYAL YACHT *BRITANNIA* IS MUCH BIGGER.

QUITE A BIT *SMALLER*, ACTUALLY, MR. KENT. MR. L LIKES TO OWN THE *BIGGEST* OF EVERYTHING.



WELL, HIS *STAFF*
SURE SEEMS
FRIENDLY ENOUGH.
BUT WHERE'S THE
BIG MAN
HIMSELF?

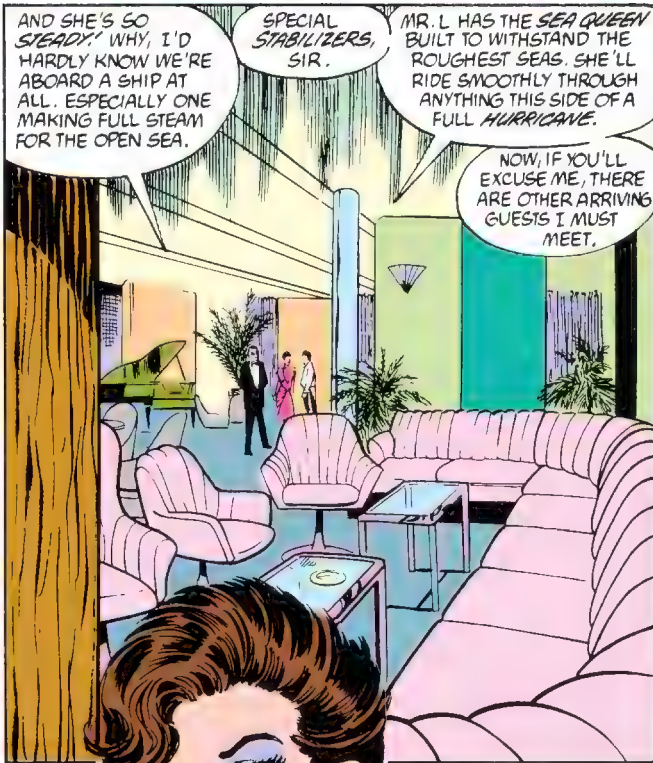


AND SHE'S SO STEADY.' WHY, I'D HARDLY KNOW WE'RE ABOARD A SHIP AT ALL. ESPECIALLY ONE MAKING FULL STEAM FOR THE OPEN SEA.

SPECIAL
STABILIZERS,
SIR.

MR. L HAS THE *SEA QUEEN*
BUILT TO WITHSTAND THE
ROUGHEST SEAS. SHE'LL
RIDE SMOOTHLY THROUGH
ANYTHING THIS SIDE OF A
FULL *HURRICANE*.

NOW, IF YOU'LL
EXCUSE ME, THERE
ARE OTHER ARRIVING
GUESTS I MUST
MEET.



RIGHT
HERE, MR.
KENT.



SO SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING. A LAST-MINUTE COMMUNICATION FROM MY OIL-FIELDS IN VENEZUELA.



LOIS, DARLING! SO VERY GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN. IT WAS... UNFORTUNATE WE MISSED GETTING TOGETHER BEFORE I LEFT FOR SOUTH AMERICA LAST YEAR.

YES...WELL, YOU KNOW HOW IT IS, LEX. I HAD OTHER THINGS OCCUPYING MY TIME.



AH, YES, THIS SO-CALLED "SUPERMAN." BUT AS I UNDERSTAND IT, IT WAS YOU WHO FINALLY TRACKED DOWN THAT STORY, KENT.

MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS, SIR!

ER--THANK YOU, MR. LUTHOR.



BUT IT WAS NOTHING REALLY. JUST LUCK.



TO YOU, PERHAPS. OTHERS MIGHT DISAGREE. BUT I UNDERSTAND YOU EVEN WENT SO FAR AS TO DECLINE THE METROPOLIS NEWSPAPER GUILD'S SPECIAL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR THE STORY.

REMARKABLE!!

IT-- DIDN'T SEEM FAIR TO ACCEPT IT, SIR. AFTER ALL, TURNING IN THAT STORY GOT ME MY JOB AT THE PLANET. THAT SEEMED REWARD ENOUGH.



MM. BUT NOW YOU'RE HERE AS LOIS'S GUEST, ASSIGNED BY YOUR BOSS TO COVER THIS LITTLE SORIEE OF MINE.

I'M SURPRISED MY OLD FRIEND PERRY WHITE DIDN'T COME HIMSELF, IN YOUR PLACE.

OH, COME ON, LEX. PERRY DOESN'T MUCH CARE FOR THE IDEA OF LIVING IN THE SAME SOLAR SYSTEM WITH YOU. YOU KNOW THAT.

HE'D NEVER COME TO ONE OF YOUR PARTIES. NOT EVEN IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS MANAGING EDITOR OF THE DAILY PLANET.



EXCUSE ME, MR. L. YOU WANTED TO BE INFORMED WHEN MAYOR BERKOWITZ AND HIS GUESTS ARRIVED.

AH, YES. THANK YOU, WYETTE.



AND NOW, IF YOU'D JUST EXCUSE US FOR A FEW MOMENTS, KENT, I'D LIKE A FEW WORDS IN PRIVATE WITH LOIS.

ER-- YES. OF COURSE. I'LL BE RIGHT OUTSIDE, LOIS.



HE SEEMS A TRIFLE UNSURE OF HIMSELF. I'M AMAZED HE'S MADE SUCH A MARK AT THE PLANET.

BUT YOU, LOIS! YOU LOOK ABSOLUTELY SPLENDID, AS ALWAYS.

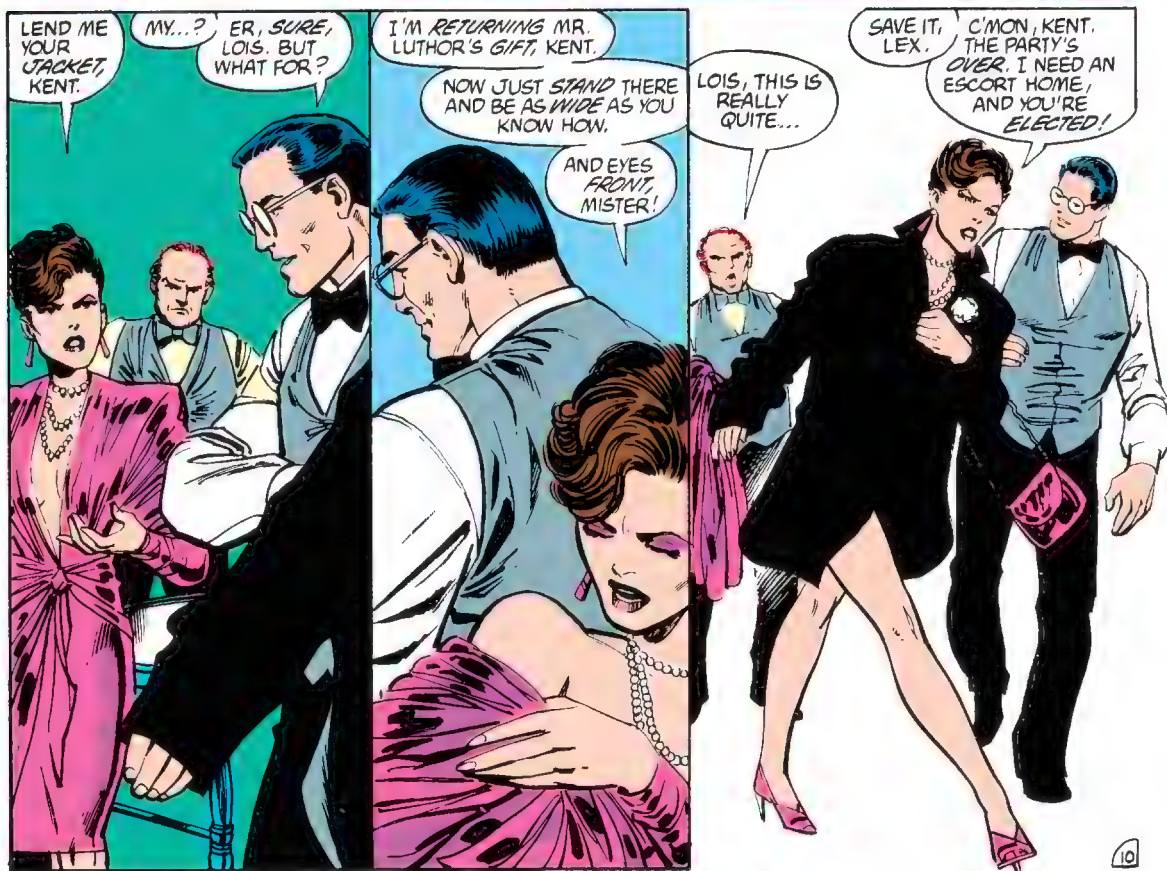
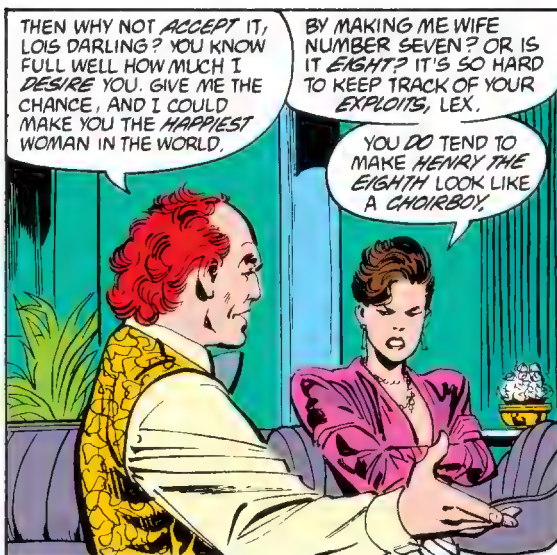
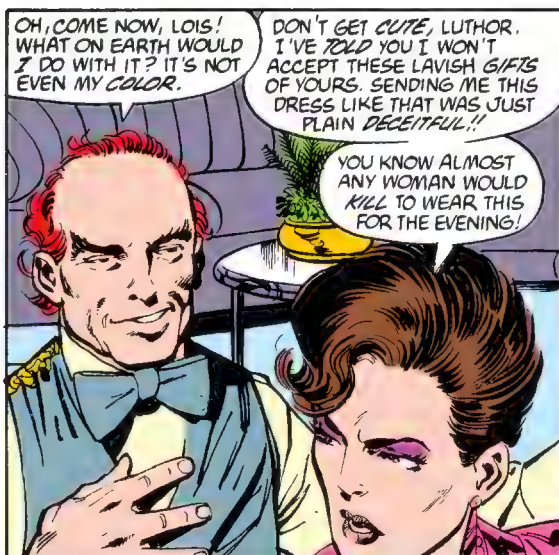
NOT QUITE "AS ALWAYS," LEX. I DON'T USUALLY PARADE AROUND IN A FIVE-THOUSAND-DOLLAR CHAMPAGNE ORIGINAL!

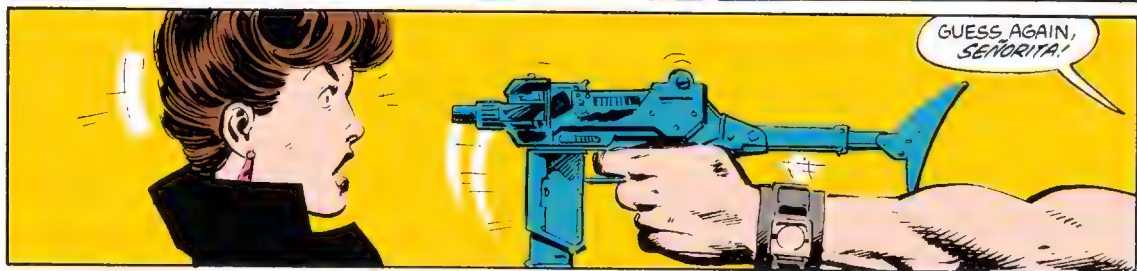


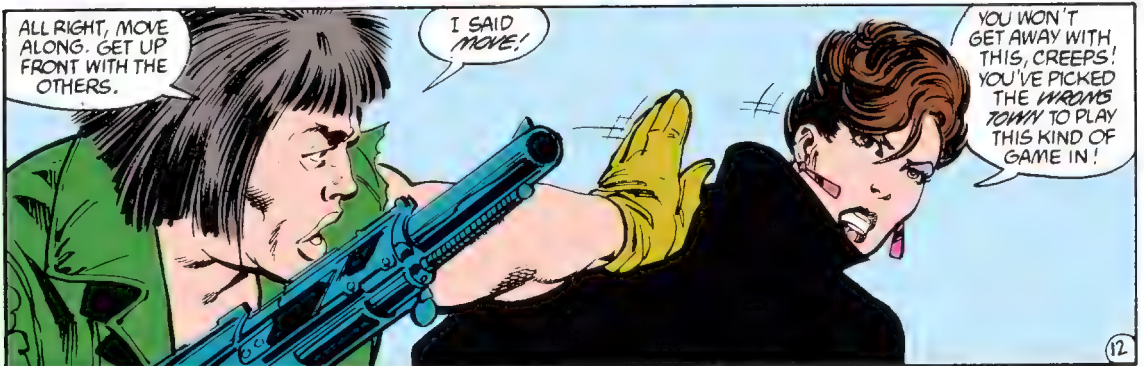
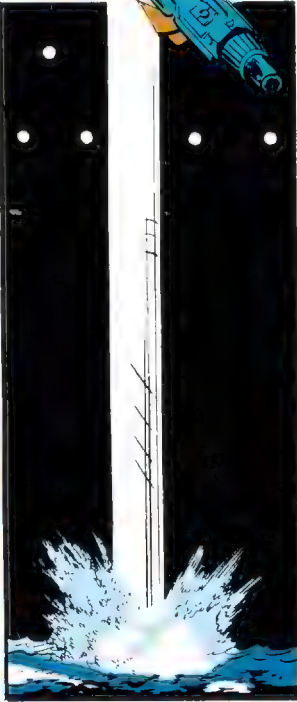
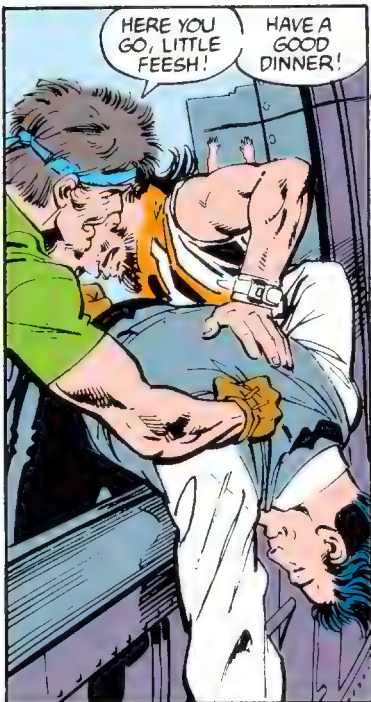
AH, THEN YOU LIKE MY LITTLE PRESENT. I'M SO GLAD. WHEN I SAW IT IN PARIS I JUST KNEW IT WAS YOU!

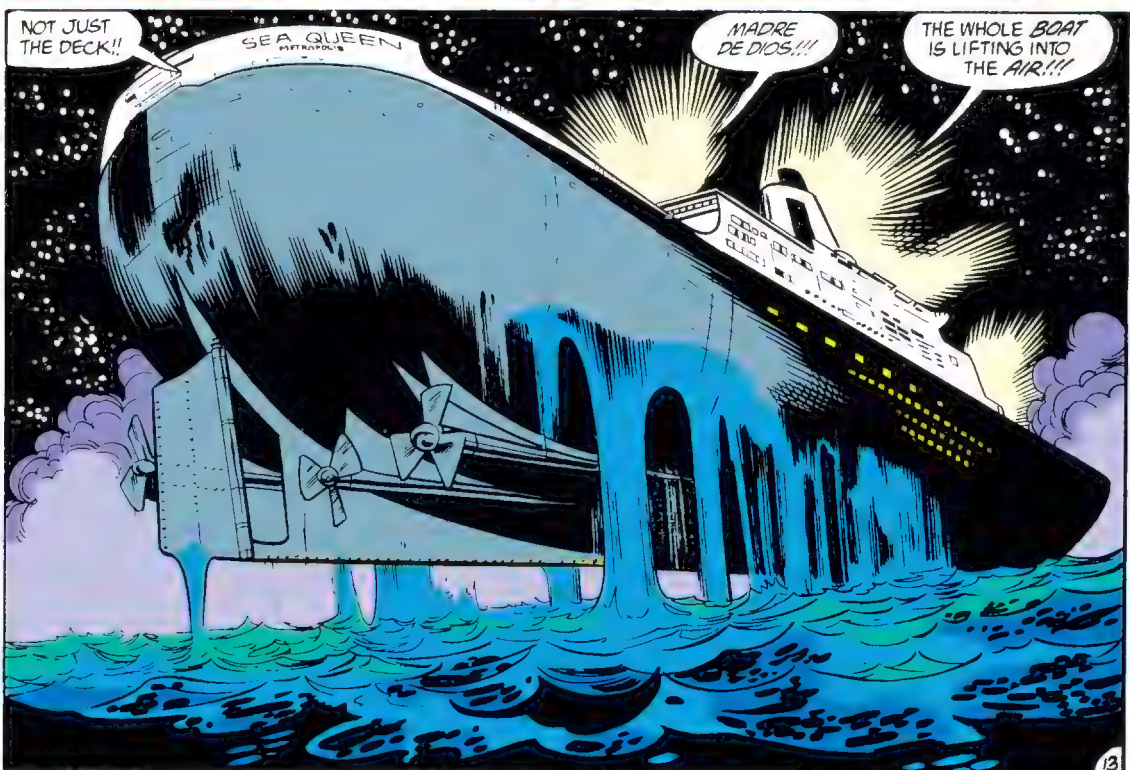
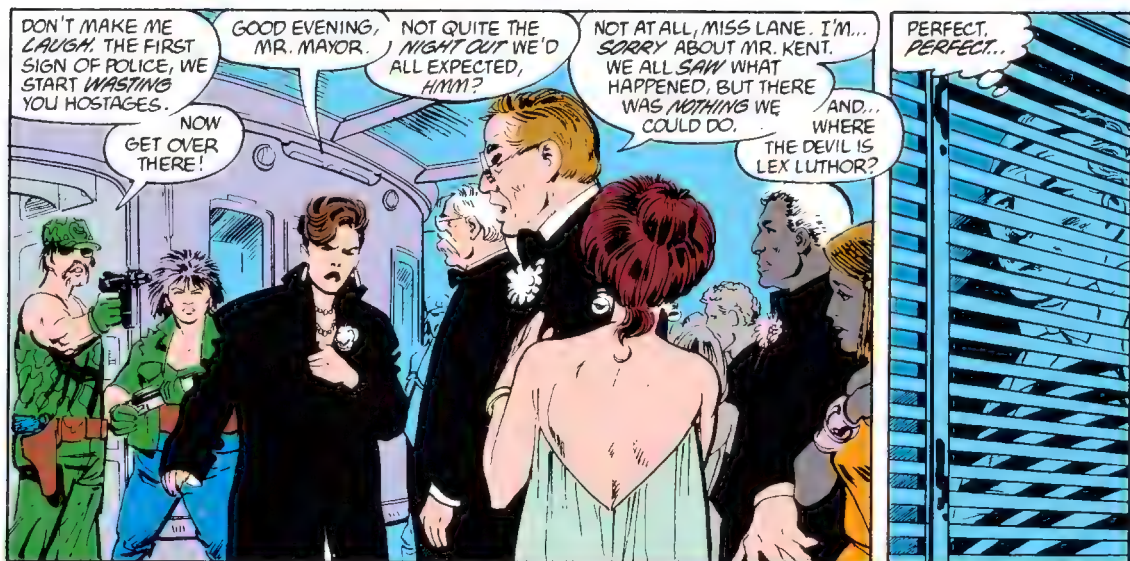
"PRESENT"?? NOW WAIT A MINUTE! YOUR NOTE SAID THIS WAS JUST FOR THE PARTY TONIGHT!

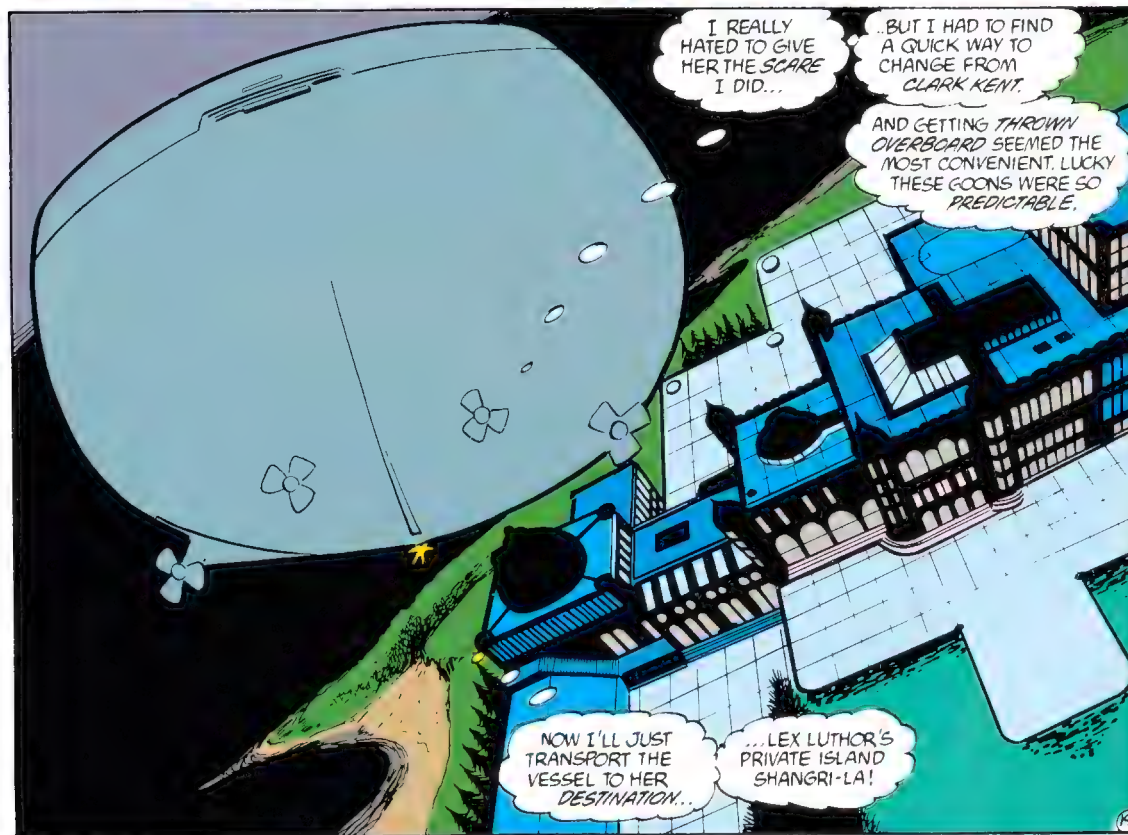
YOU KNOW I'D HAVE RETURNED IT UNWORN IF I'D THOUGHT IT WAS MEANT AS A GIFT!!

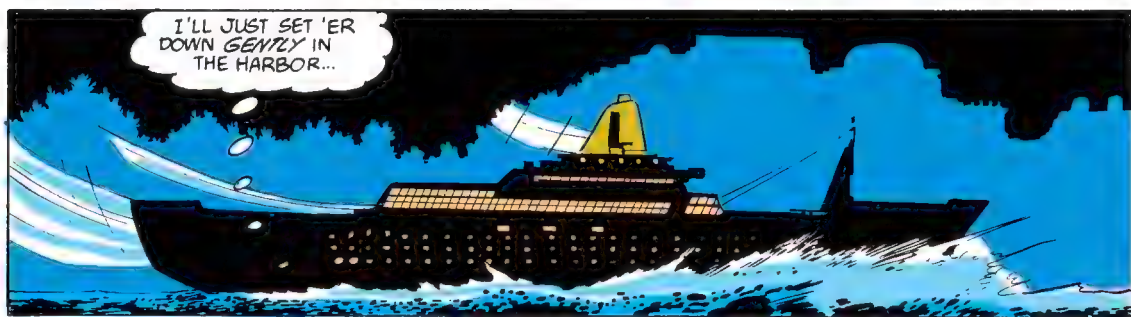












I'LL JUST SET 'ER
DOWN *GENTLY* IN
THE HARBOR...



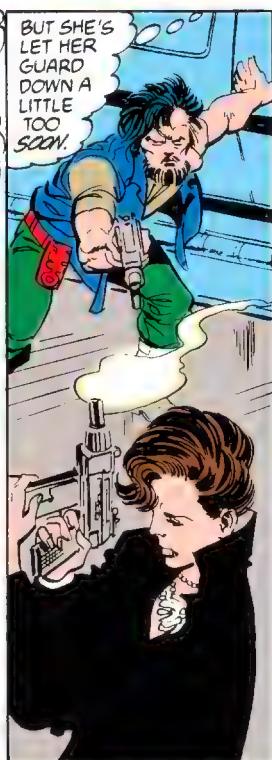
...AND FINISH
MOPPING UP
THESE *VERMIN*
BEFORE ANYONE
REALLY GETS
HURT!



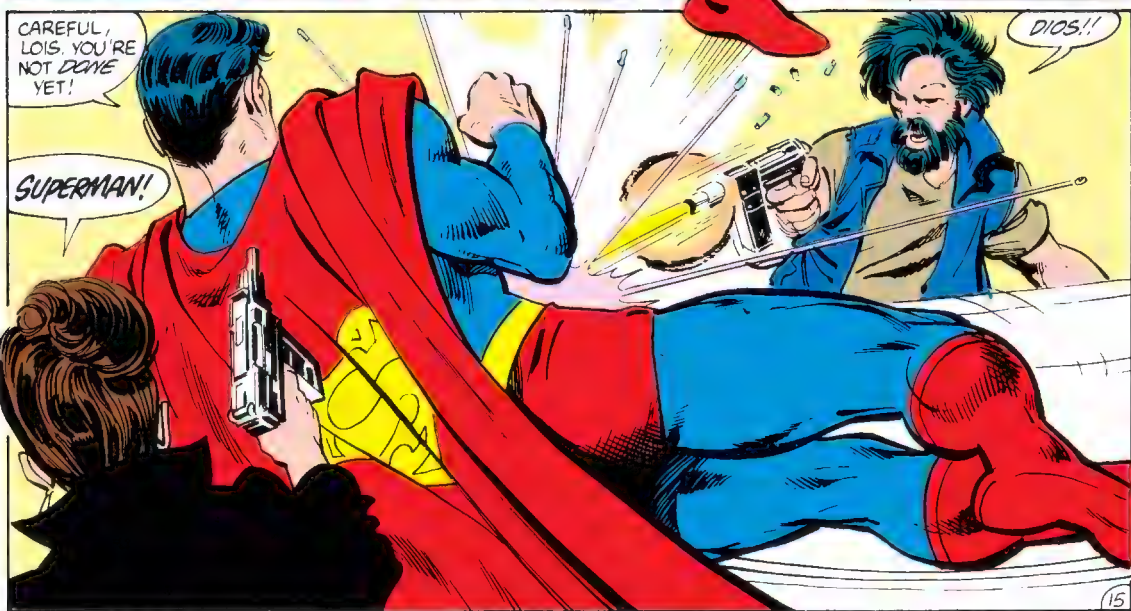
WELL WELL! LOIS
SEEMS TO HAVE
THINGS NICELY
IN HAND.

I GUESS I SHOULDN'T
BE *SURPRISED* BY
HER *SKILL* WITH
THAT WEAPON.

BEING AN *ARMY*
BRAT, SHE WAS
ALMOST BOUND TO
HAVE PICKED UP
SOME TRICKS.



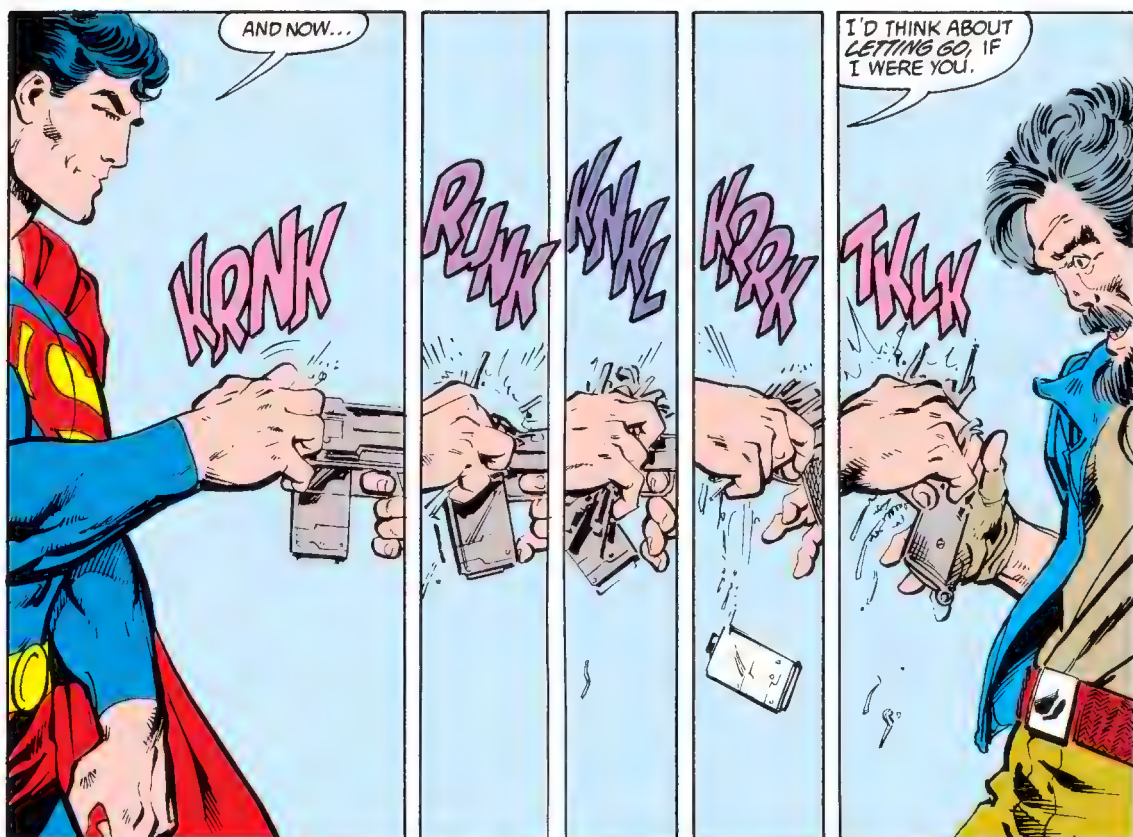
BUT SHE'S
LET HER
GUARD
DOWN A
LITTLE
TOO
SOON!

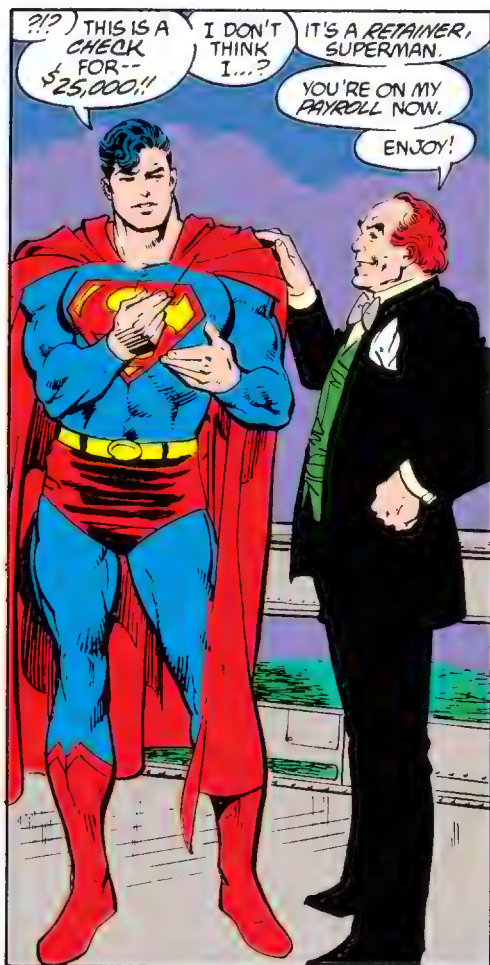


CAREFUL,
LOIS, YOU'RE
NOT *DONE*
YET!

SUPERMAN!

DIOS!!





???) THIS IS A CHECK FOR-- \$25,000!!

I DON'T THINK I...?

IT'S A RETAINER, SUPERMAN.

YOU'RE ON MY PAYROLL NOW.

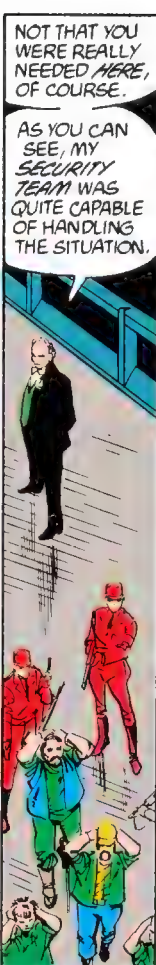
ENJOY!



ER... I'M VERY SORRY, MR. LUTHOR, BUT THERE MUST BE SOME MIS-UNDERSTANDING HERE.

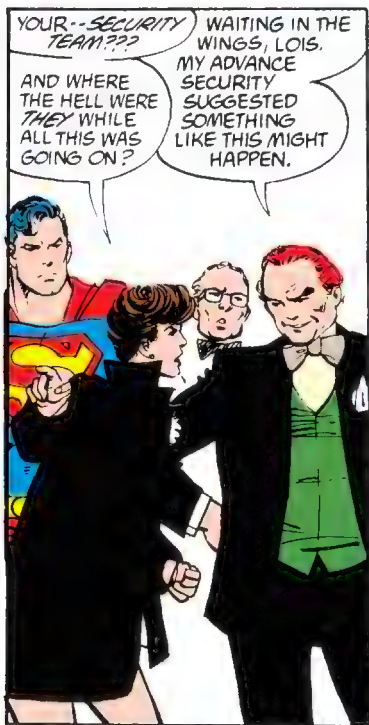
MY SERVICES ARE NOT FOR HIRE.

NONSENSE! EVERYONE WHO'S ANYONE IN METROPOLIS WORKS FOR ME. YOU'RE FAR TOO VALUABLE A RESOURCE TO LEAVE UNDIRECTED.



NOT THAT YOU WERE REALLY NEEDED HERE, OF COURSE.

AS YOU CAN SEE, MY SECURITY TEAM WAS QUITE CAPABLE OF HANDLING THE SITUATION.



YOUR--SECURITY TEAM???

AND WHERE THE HELL WERE THEY WHILE ALL THIS WAS GOING ON?

WAITING IN THE WINGS, LOIS. MY ADVANCE SECURITY SUGGESTED SOMETHING LIKE THIS MIGHT HAPPEN.



YOU--YOU KNEW ABOUT THIS?

YOU ALLOWED IT TO HAPPEN?

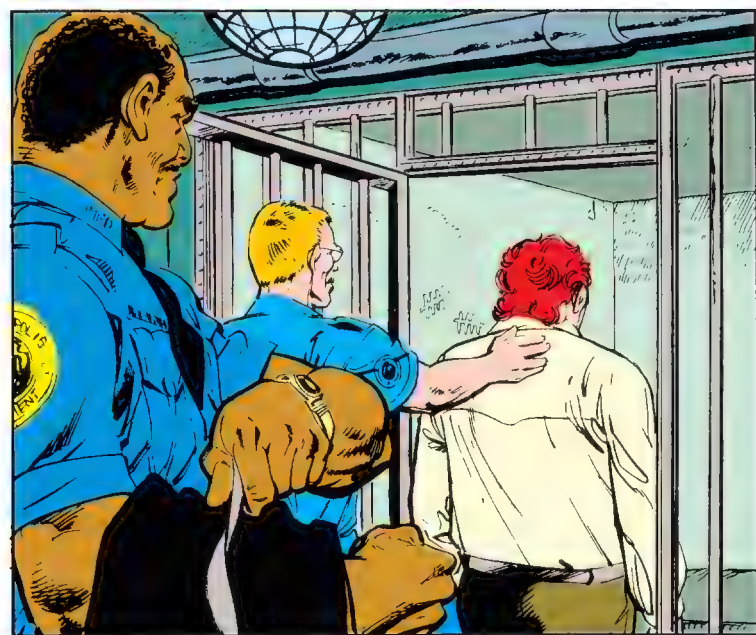
NOT ABSOLUTELY, OF COURSE, BUT MY SOUTH AMERICAN HOLDINGS HAVE HAD SOME SMALL PROBLEMS WITH THESE PEOPLE.

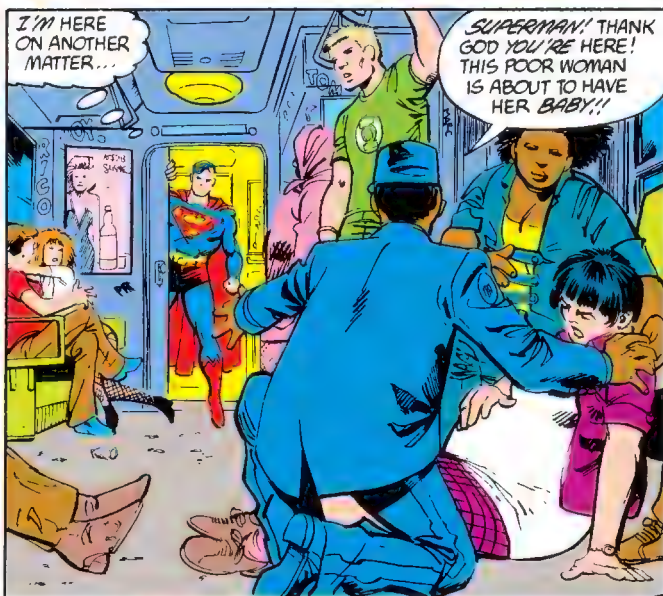
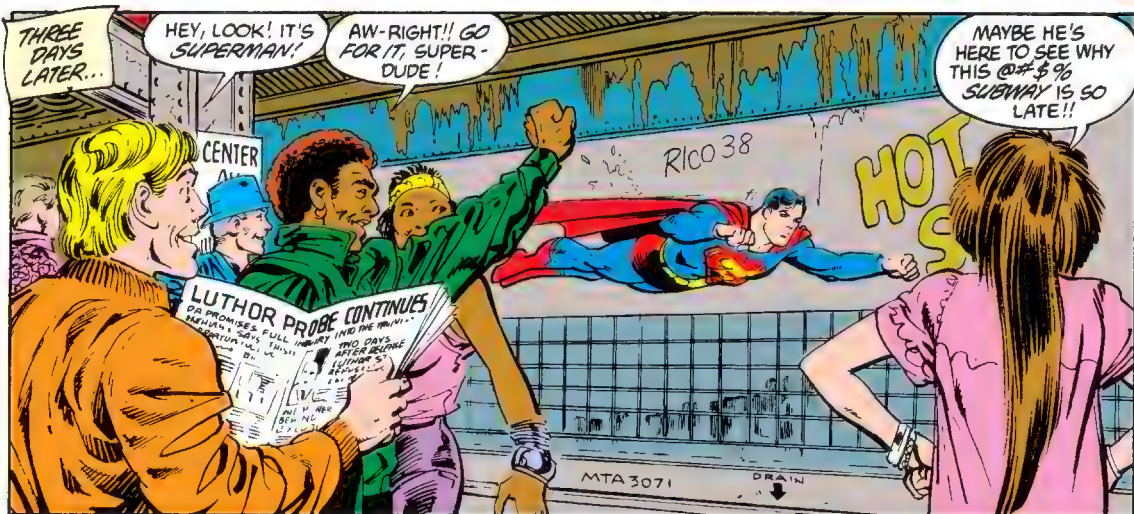


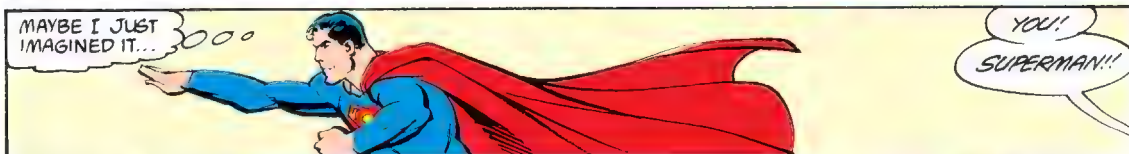
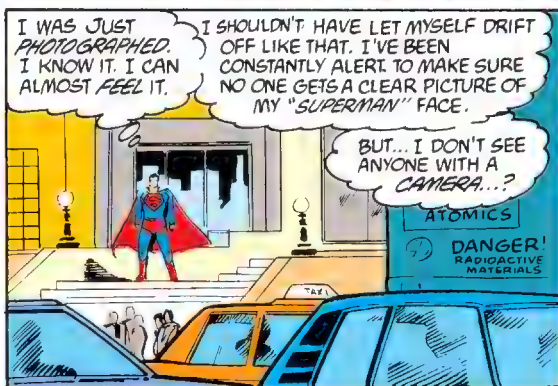
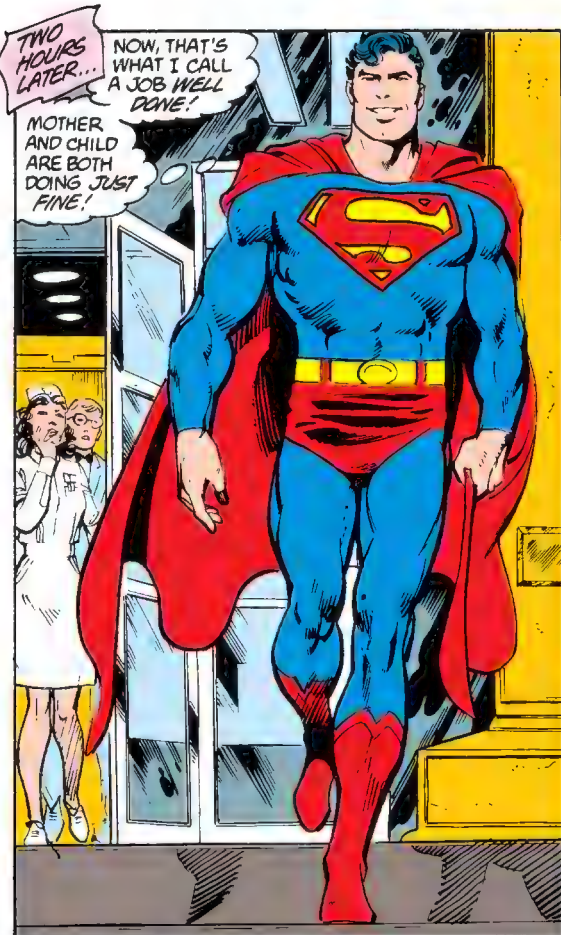
WHEN MY INFORMED SOURCES RELAYED TO ME THE INFORMATION THAT THIS PARTICULAR CADRE MIGHT LAUNCH A HIJACK ATTEMPT AGAINST THE QUEEN...

...I ORDERED MY MEN TO HOLD BACK, SO THAT WE MIGHT SEE WHAT THIS "SUPERMAN" COULD REALLY DO.

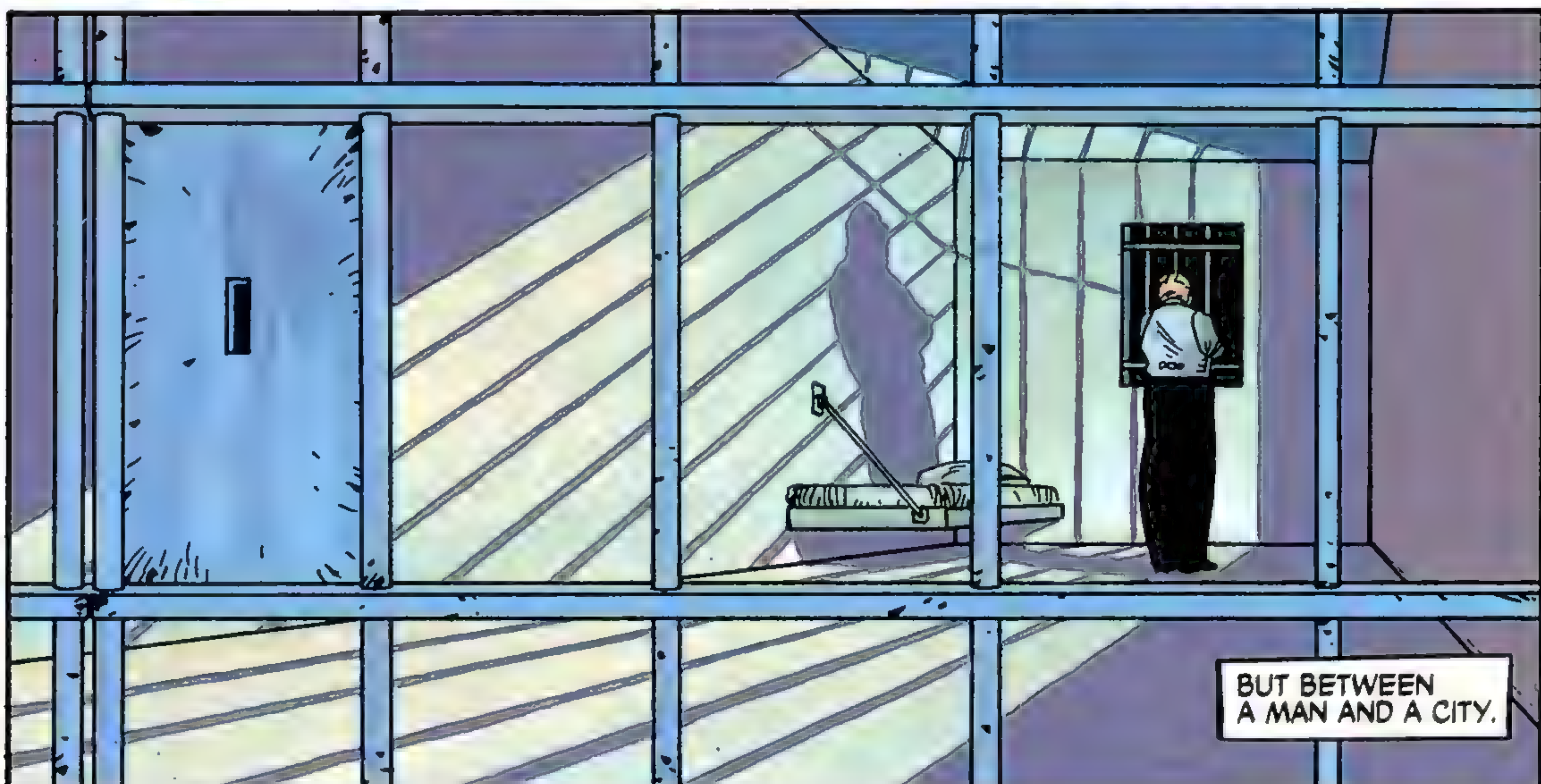
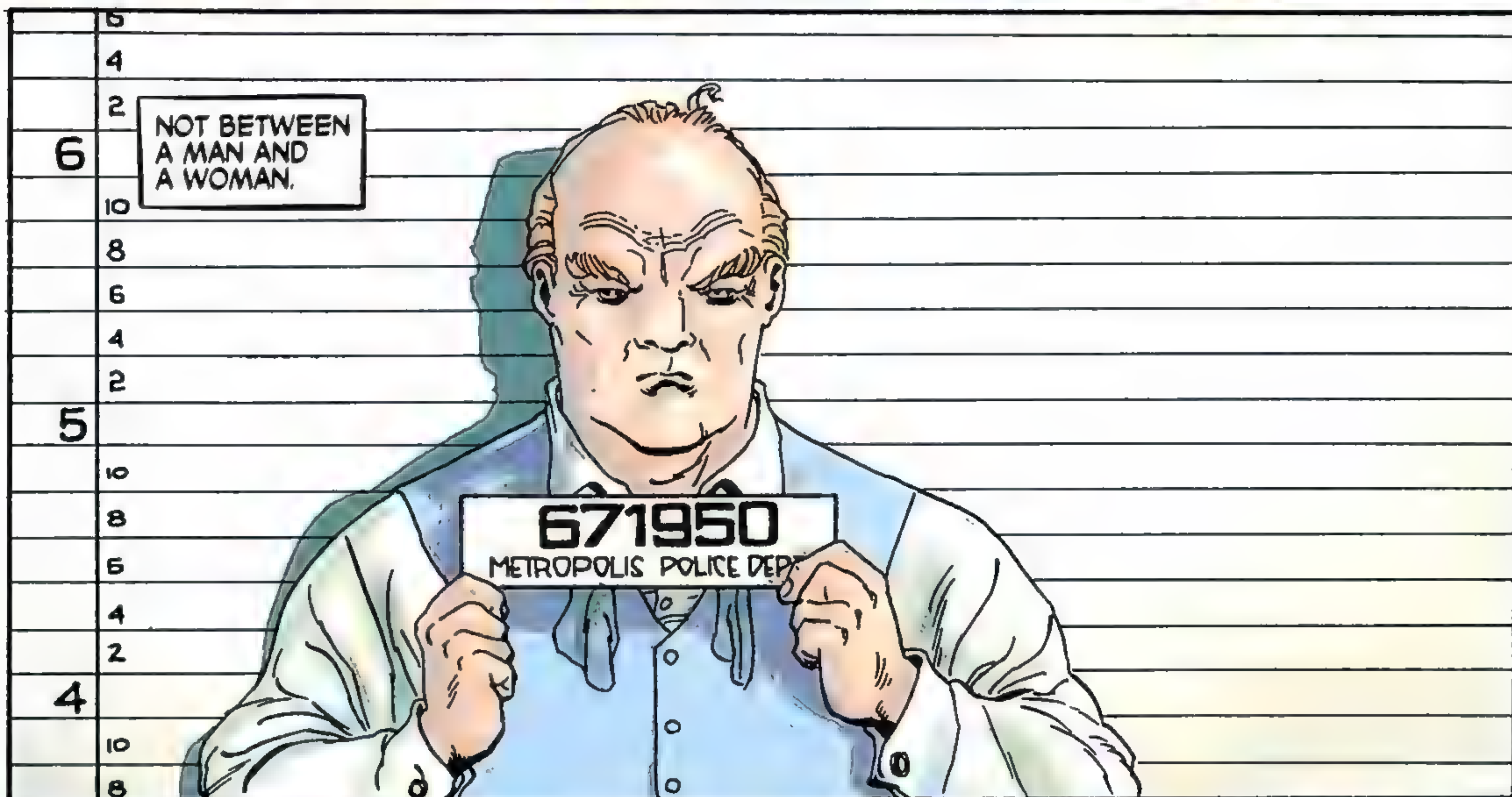
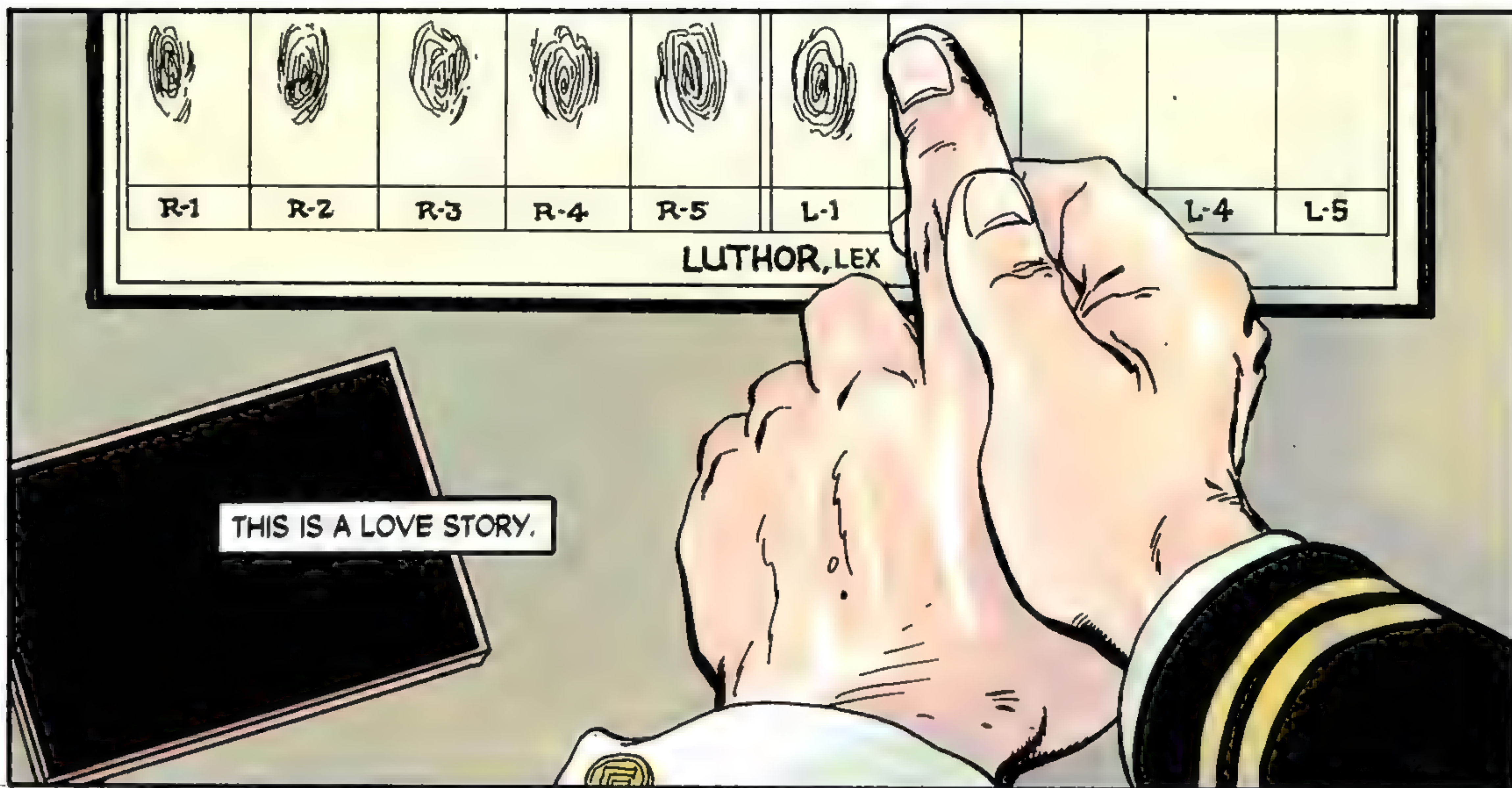












MY CITY.

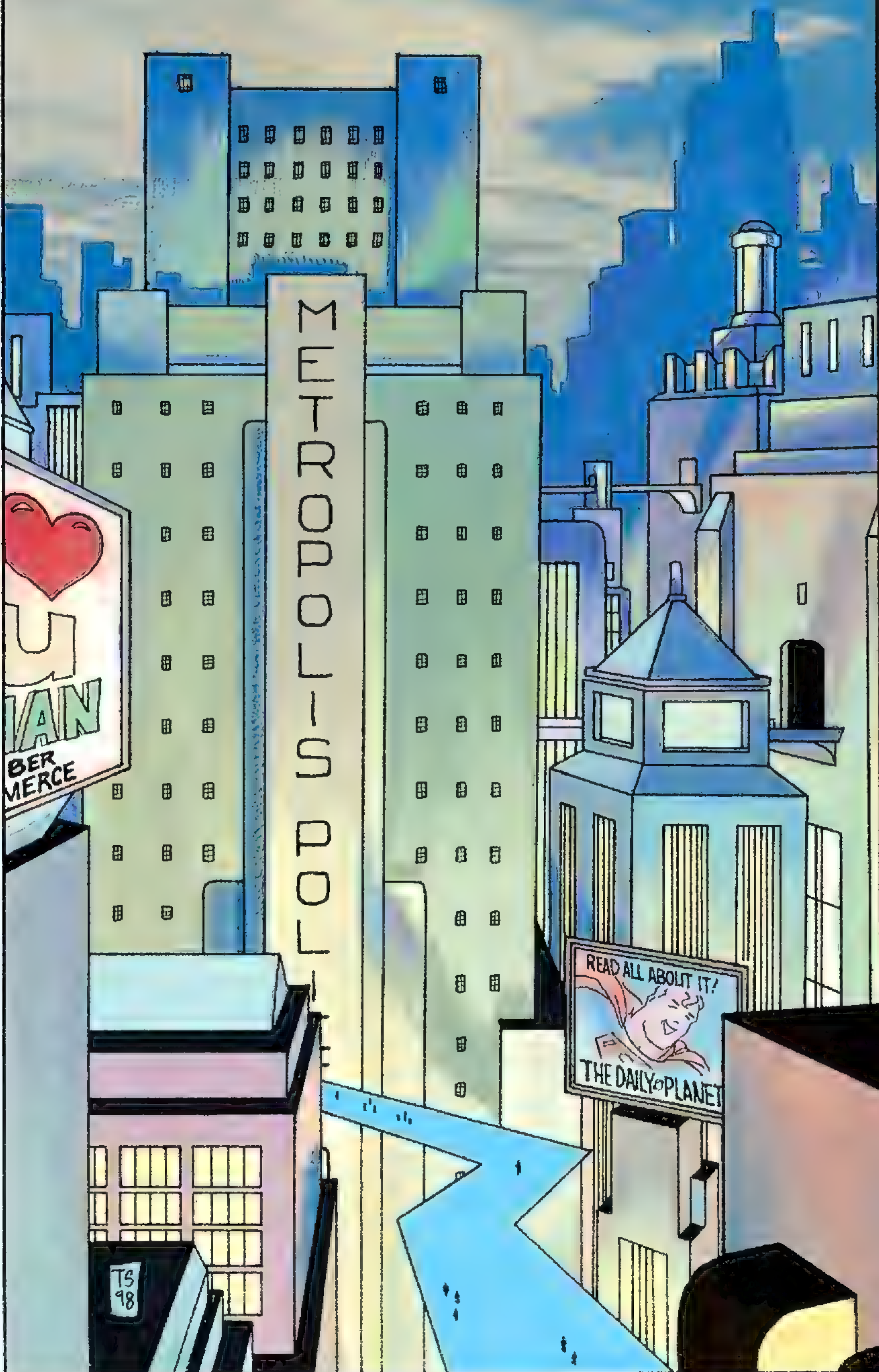
METROPOLIS.

WELCOME TO
METROPOLIS
Home of Superman



LIKE ALL GOOD LOVE
STORIES, IT IS FULL
OF BETRAYAL, ANGER,
TRAGEDY AND...

...REVENGE.





THERE ARE THOSE WHO WILL FIND THIS DAY... "IRONIC."

EVEN "APPROPRIATE."

THEY ARE MISINFORMED.



THE PUBLIC NEEDS TO BE SPOKEN TO.

METROPOLIS POLICE

OFTEN, THEY NEED TO BE SPOKEN TO AS CHILDREN.

SO THEY CAN GRASP MY POSITION.

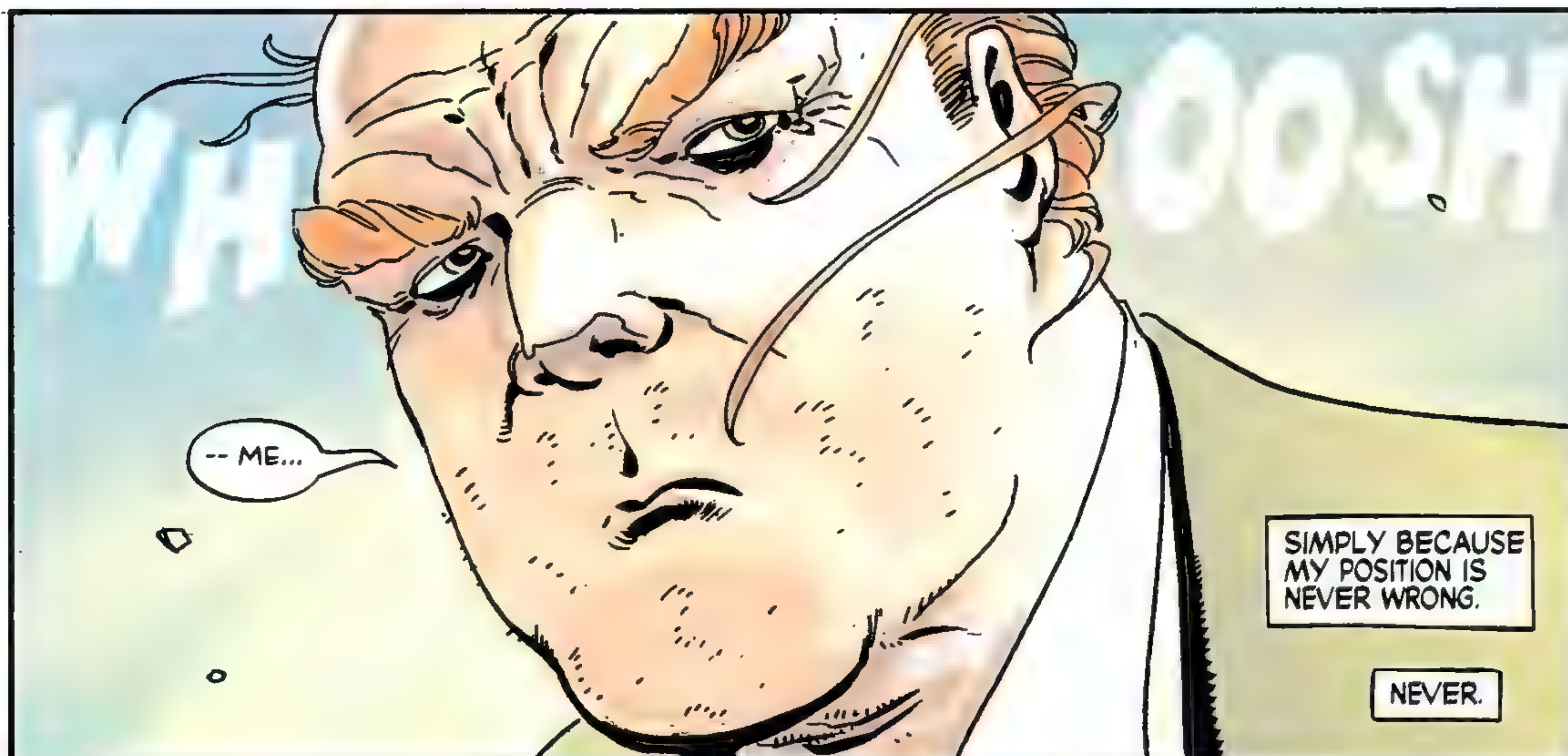
LEX LUTHOR. WHAT'S IT LIKE SPENDING THE NIGHT IN THE SLAMMER?

LOIS, GOOD TO SEE YOU.

AS WELL AS YOUR OTHER ESTEEMED COLLEAGUES IN THE MEDIA.

I THINK WHEN THIS IS ALL STRAIGHTENED OUT, WE'LL FIND IT TO BE NOTHING MORE THAN A MISUNDERSTANDING --

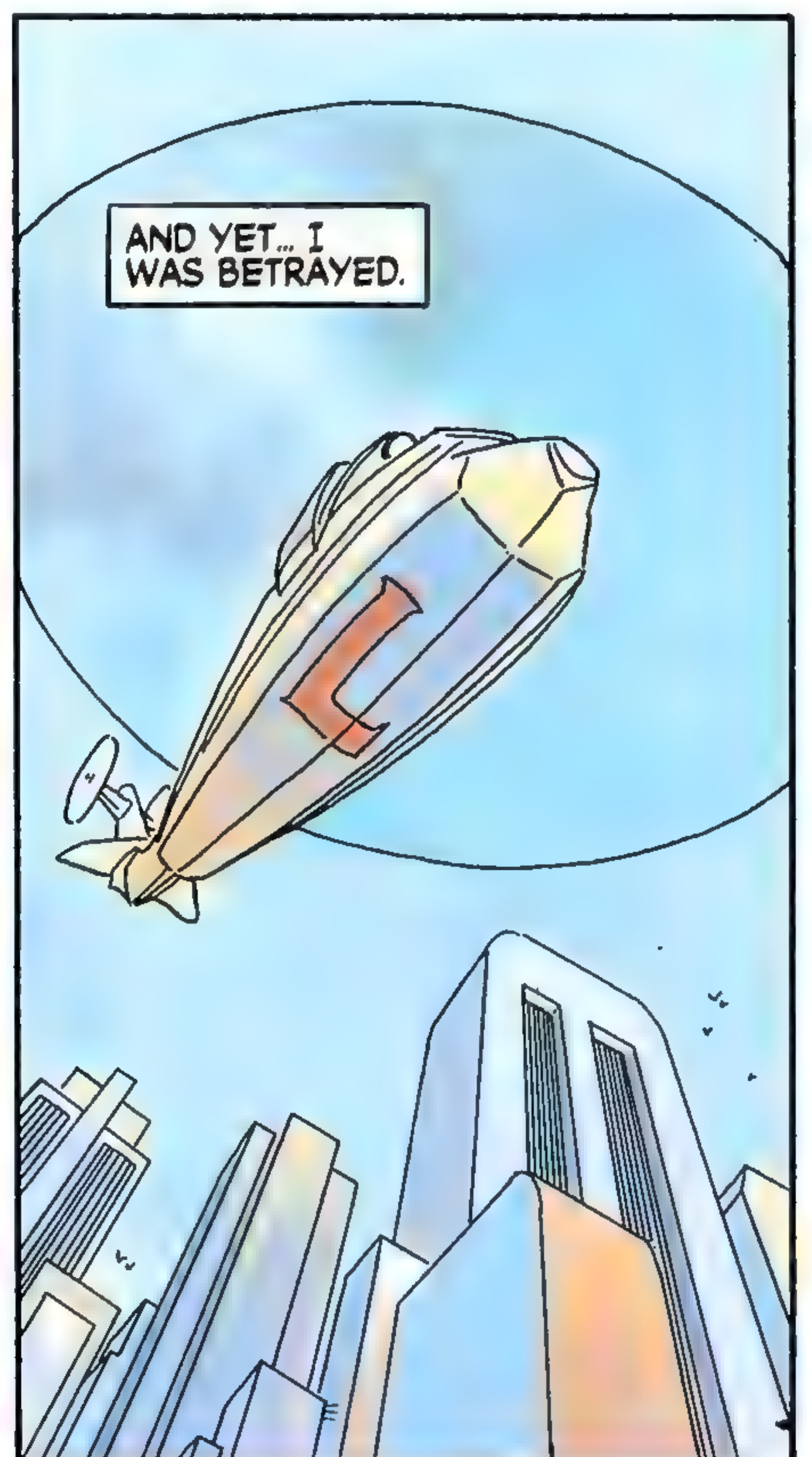
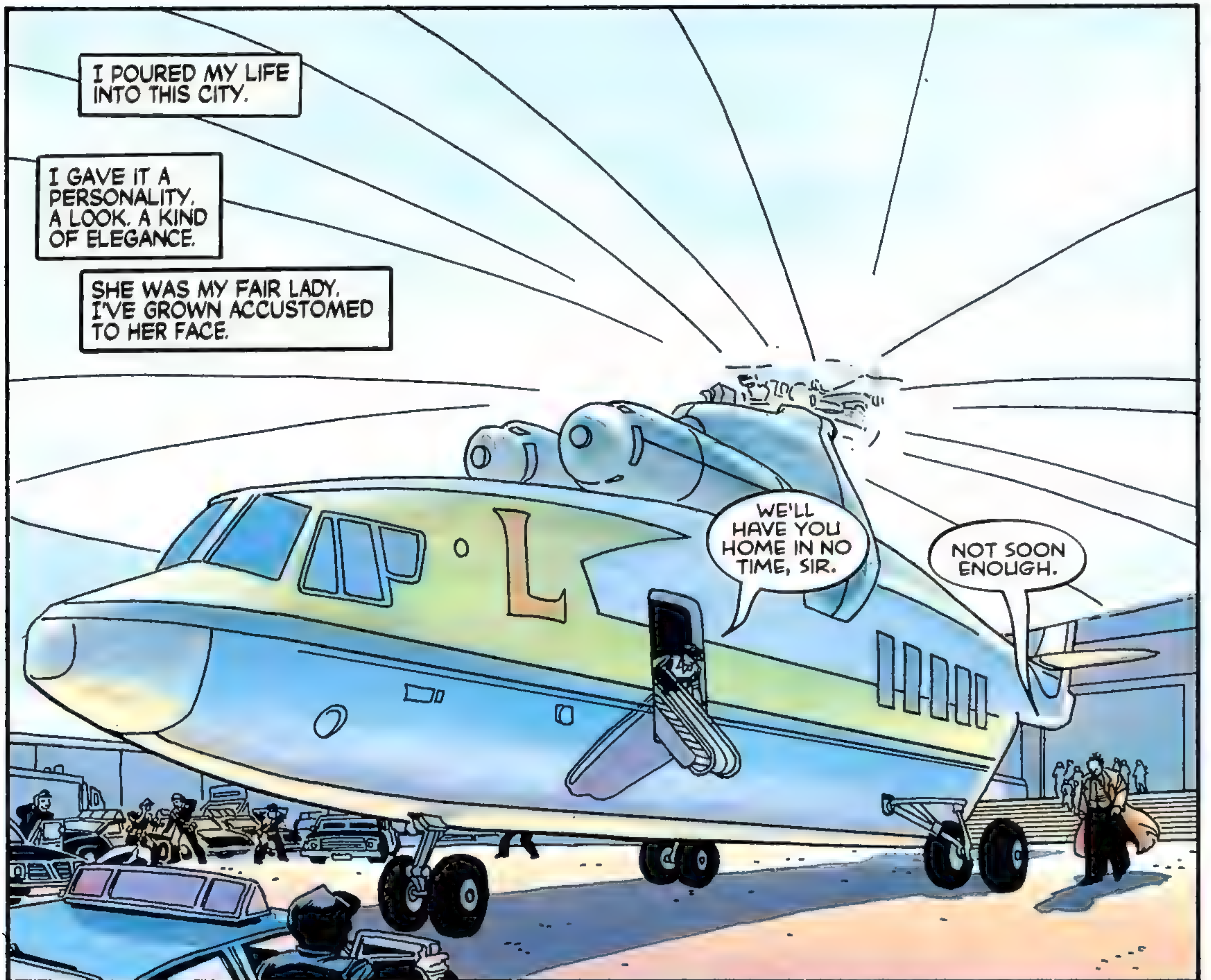
-- AND I, LIKE THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY, WILL PUT THIS LITTLE EPISODE BEHIND --



-- ME...

SIMPLY BECAUSE MY POSITION IS NEVER WRONG.

NEVER.



BETRAYED FOR
ANOTHER MAN.

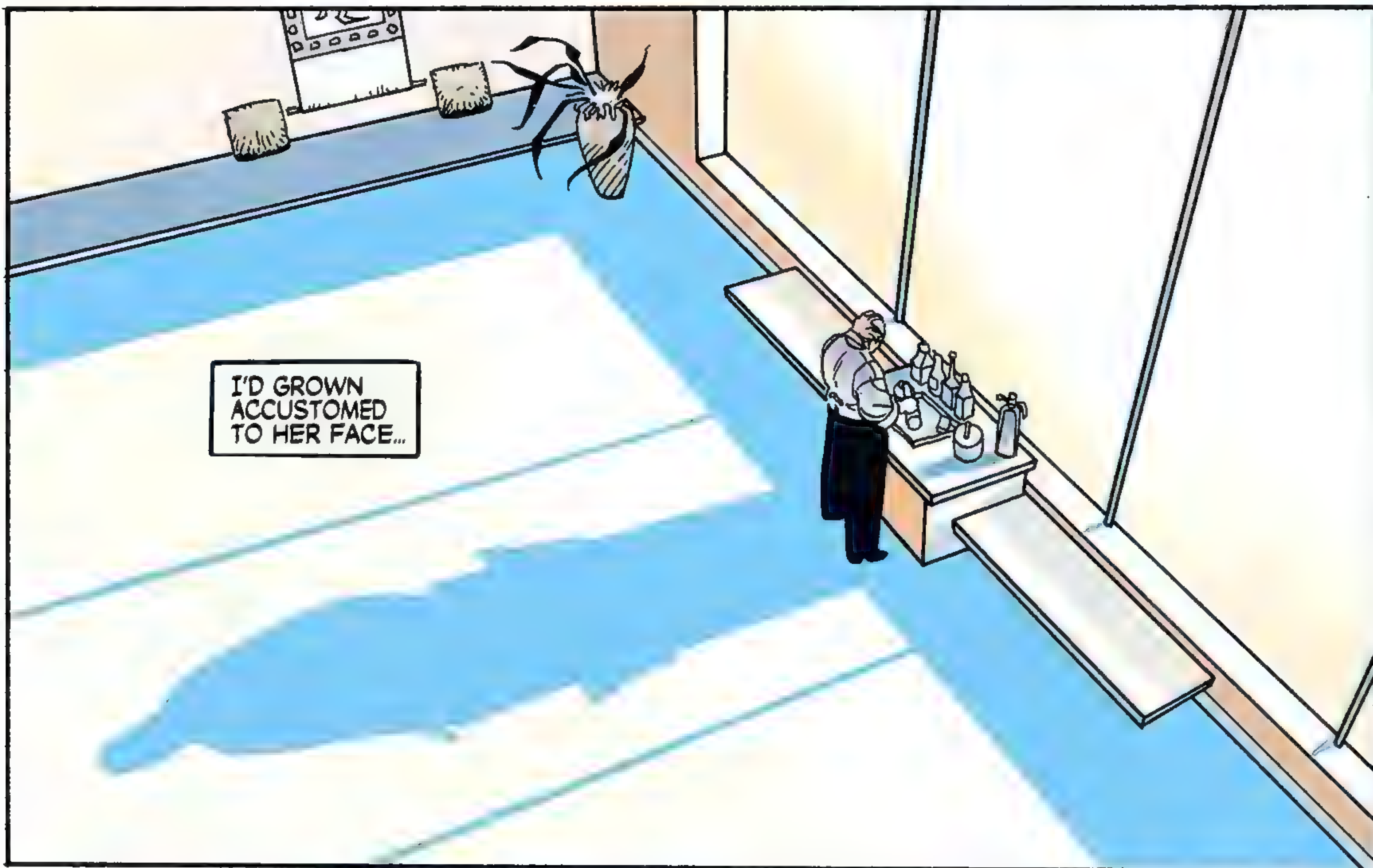
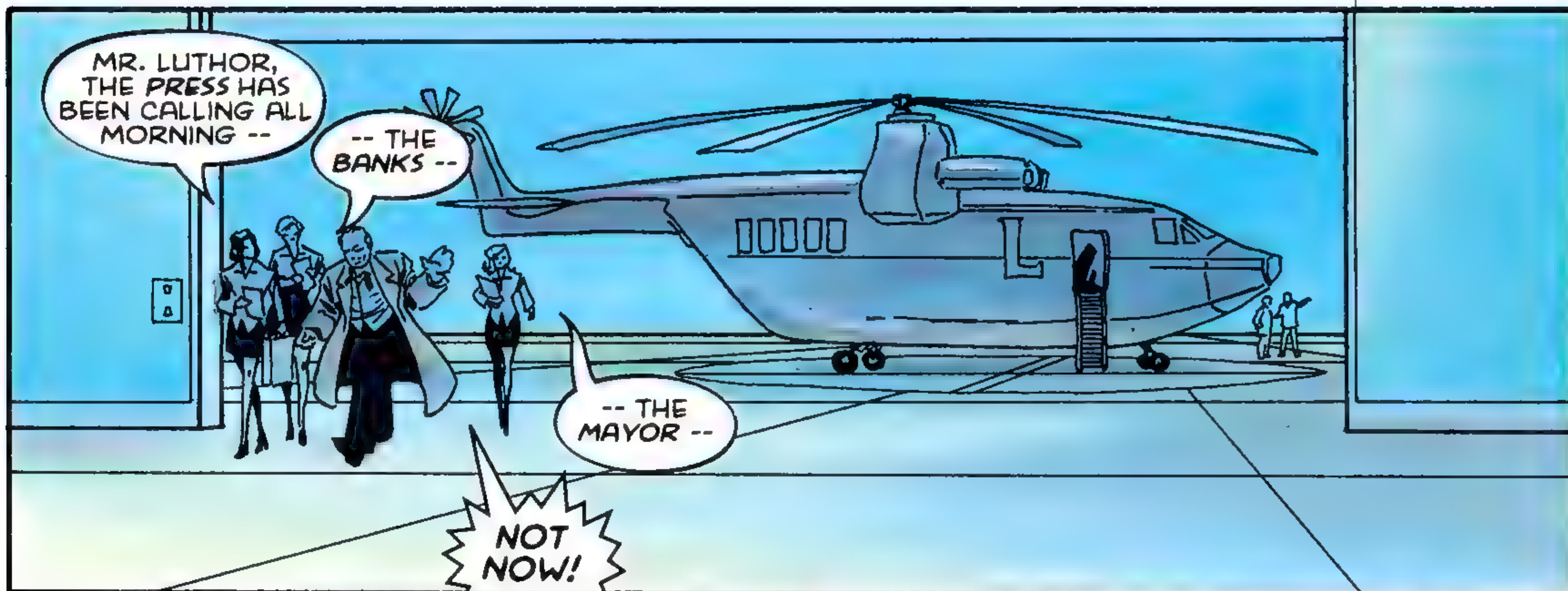
A SO-CALLED
"SUPER" MAN.

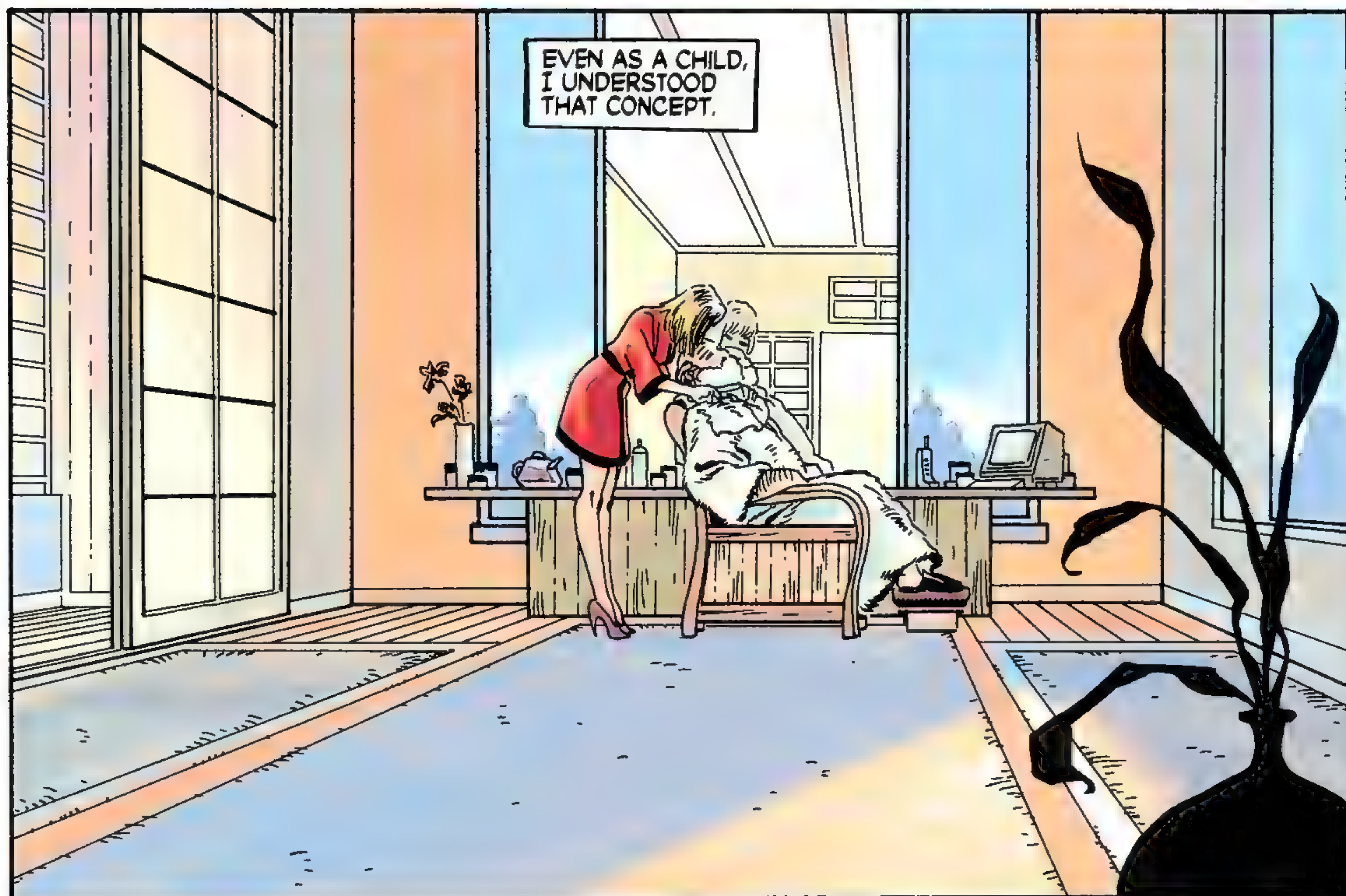
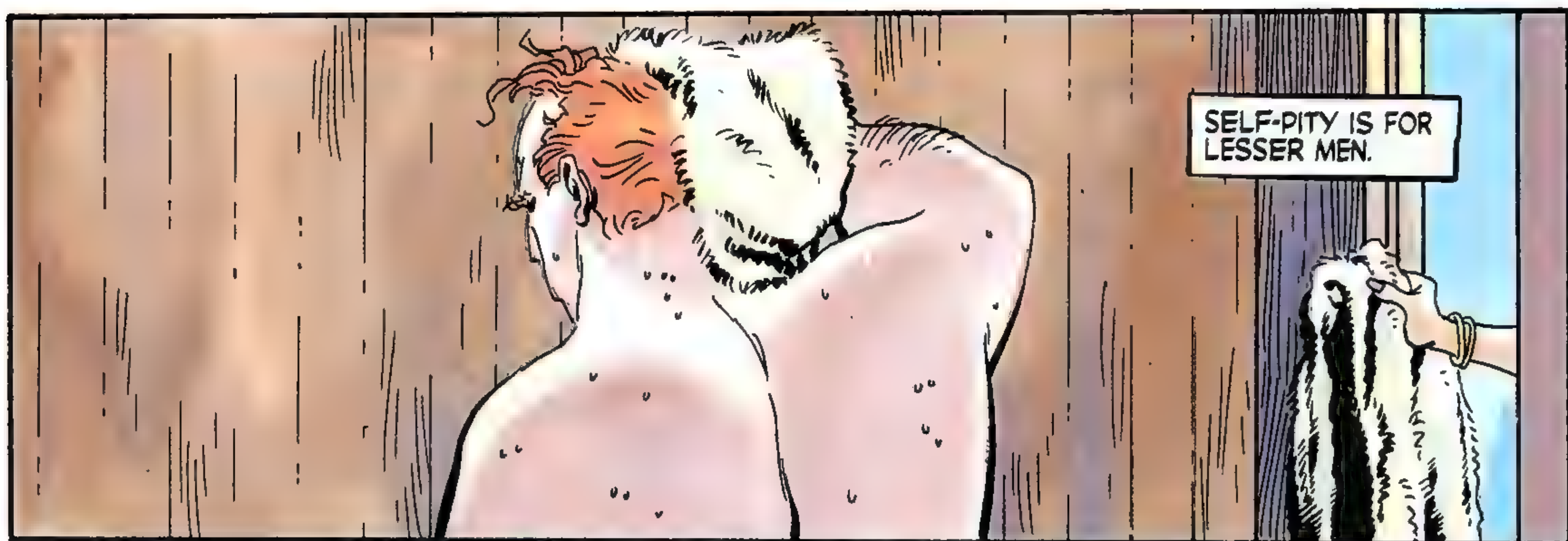
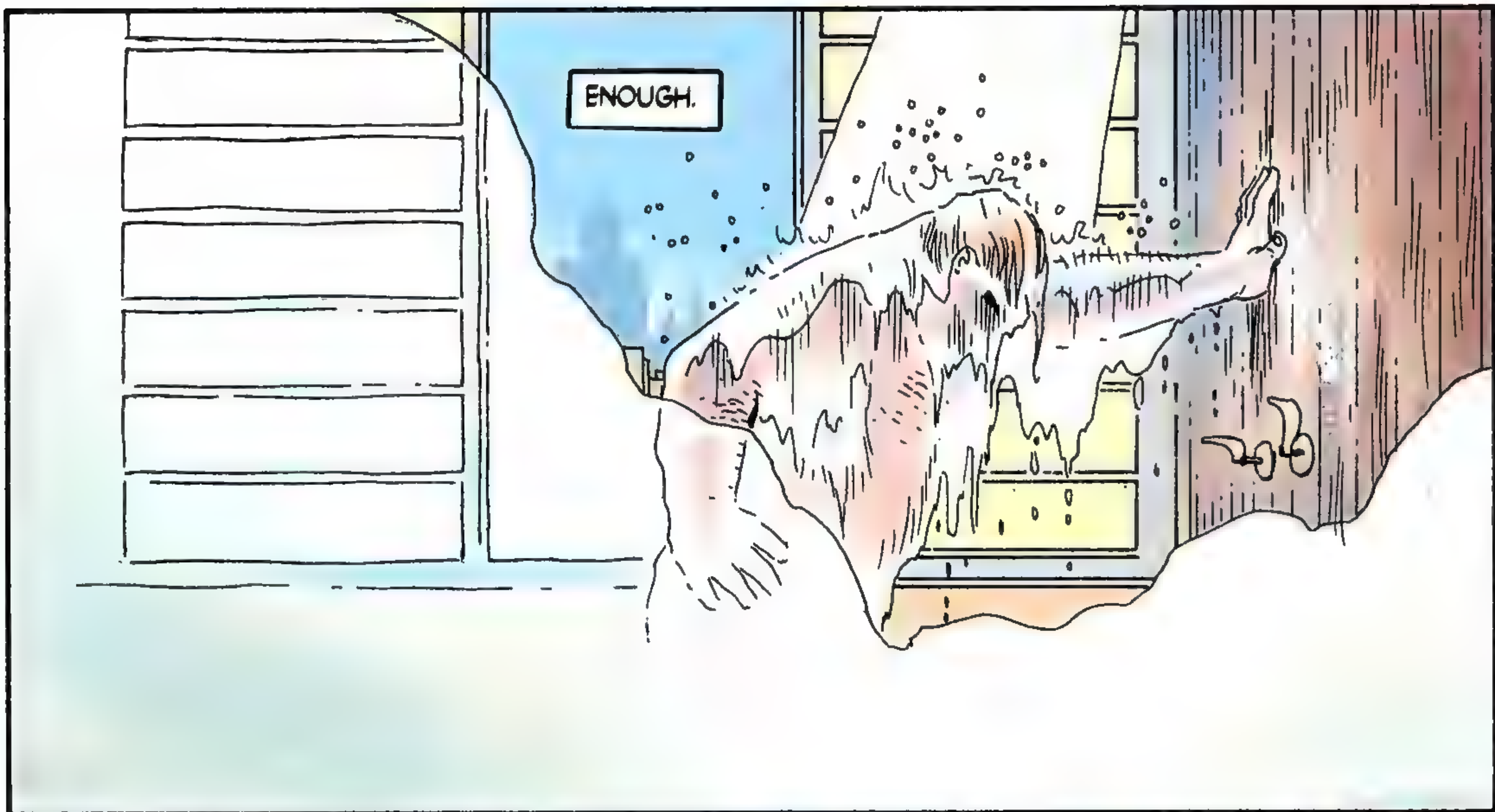
UM...
MR. LUTHOR --
WE HAVE A
SITUATION
HERE.

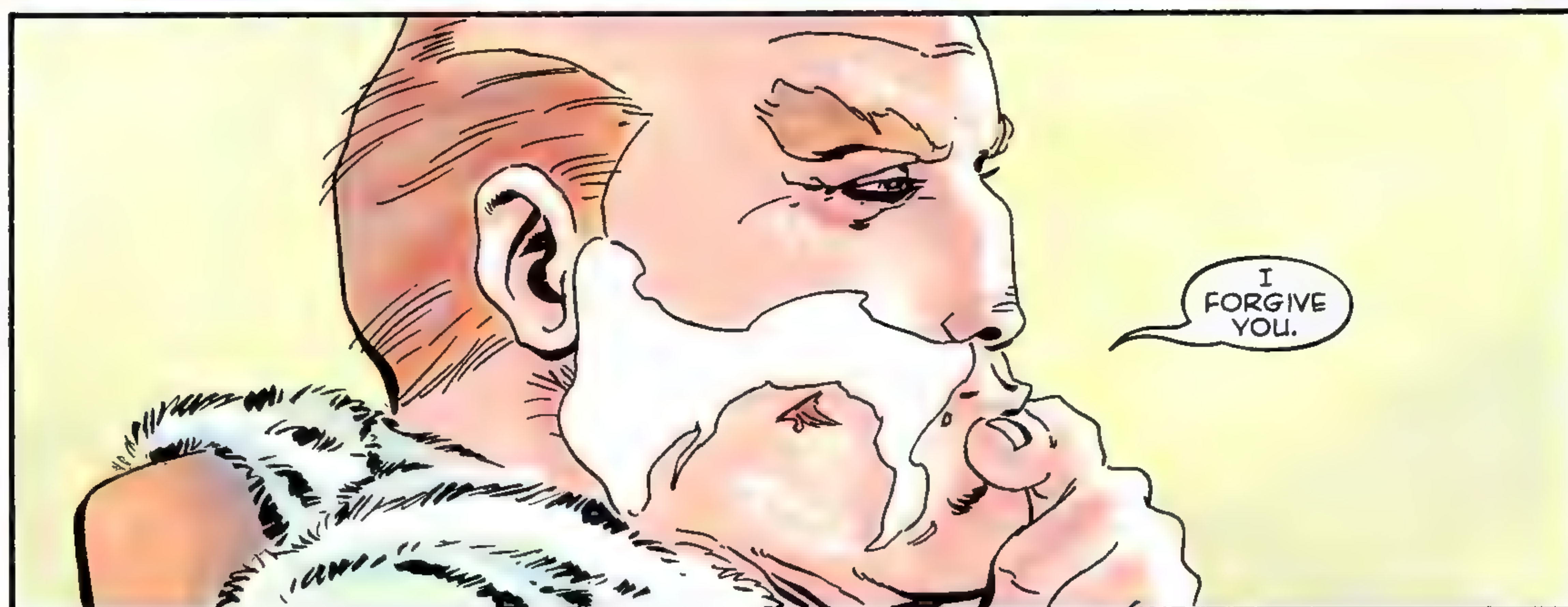
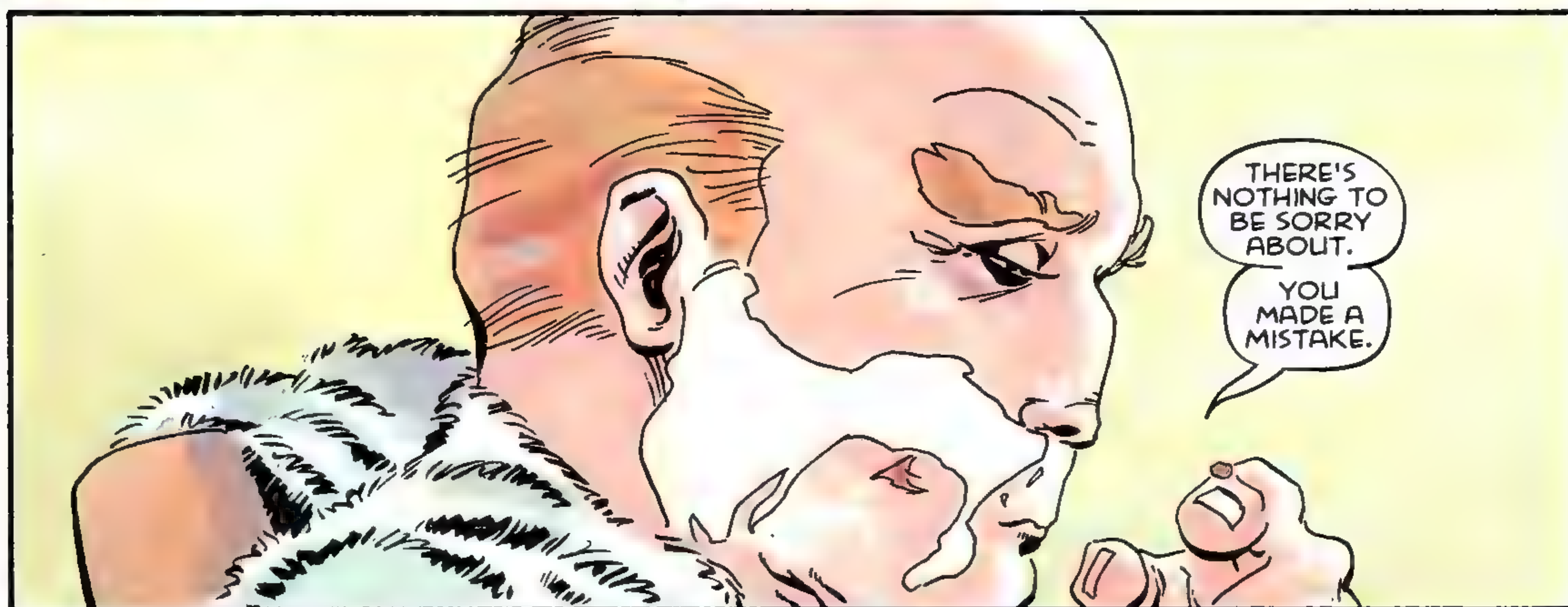
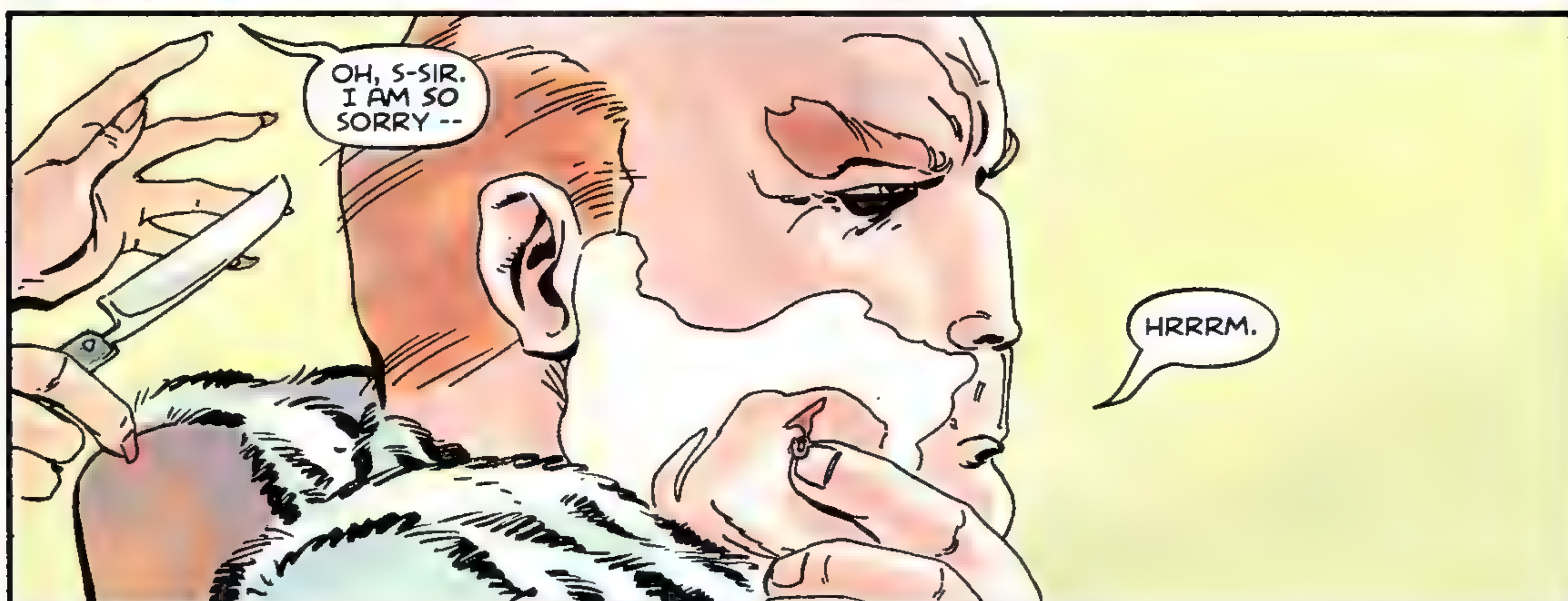
WHAT
KIND OF
SITUATION?!

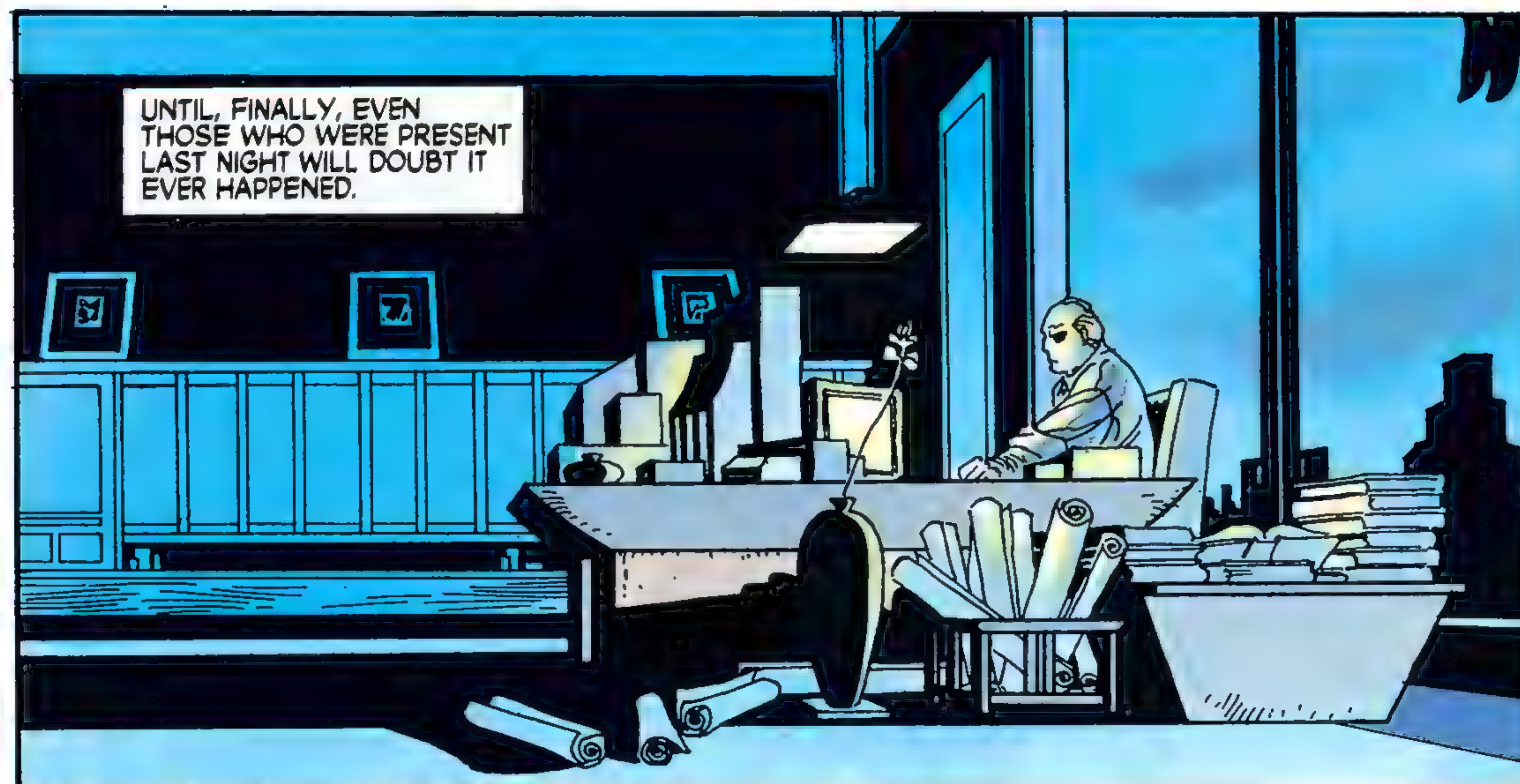
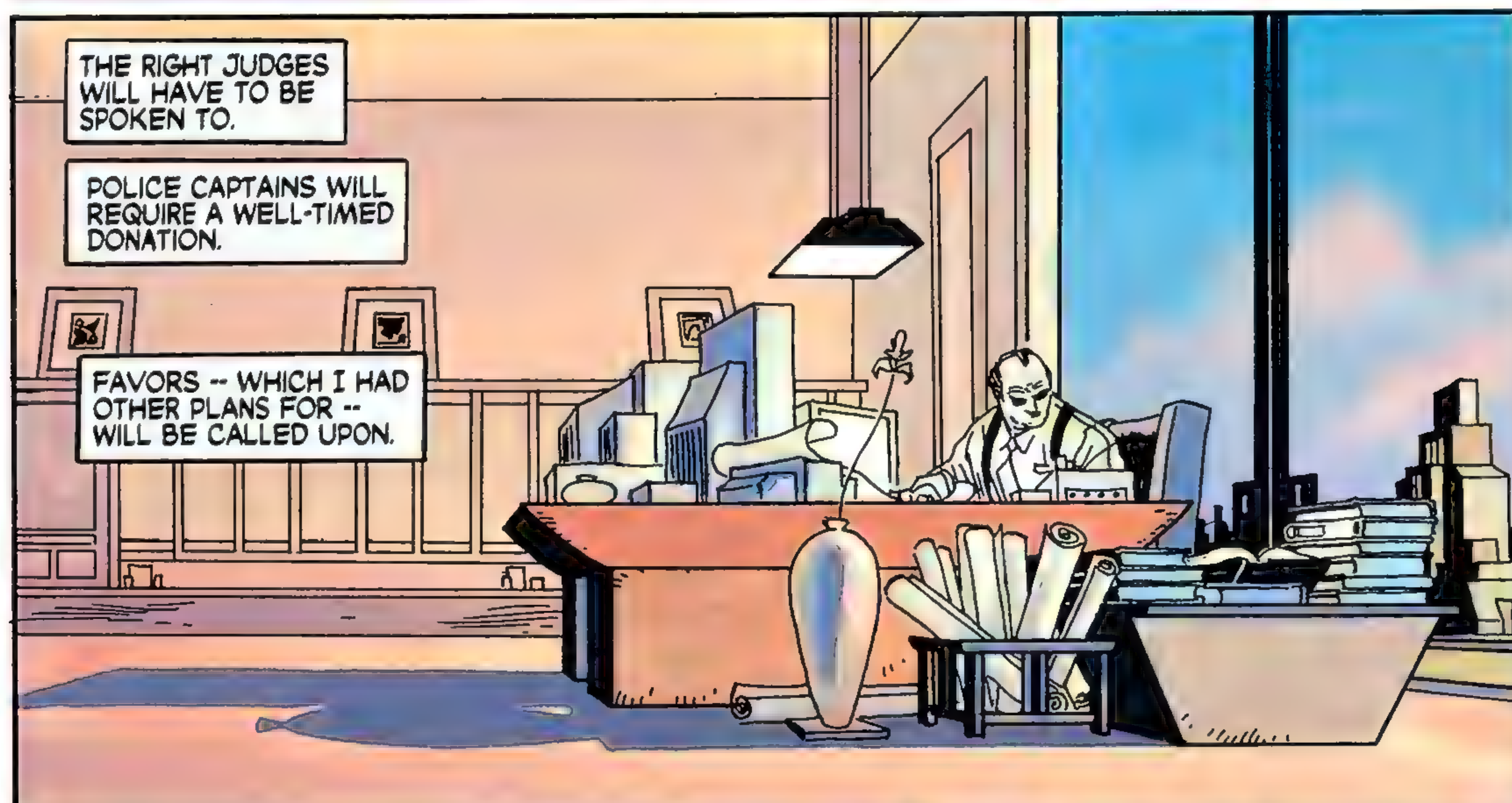
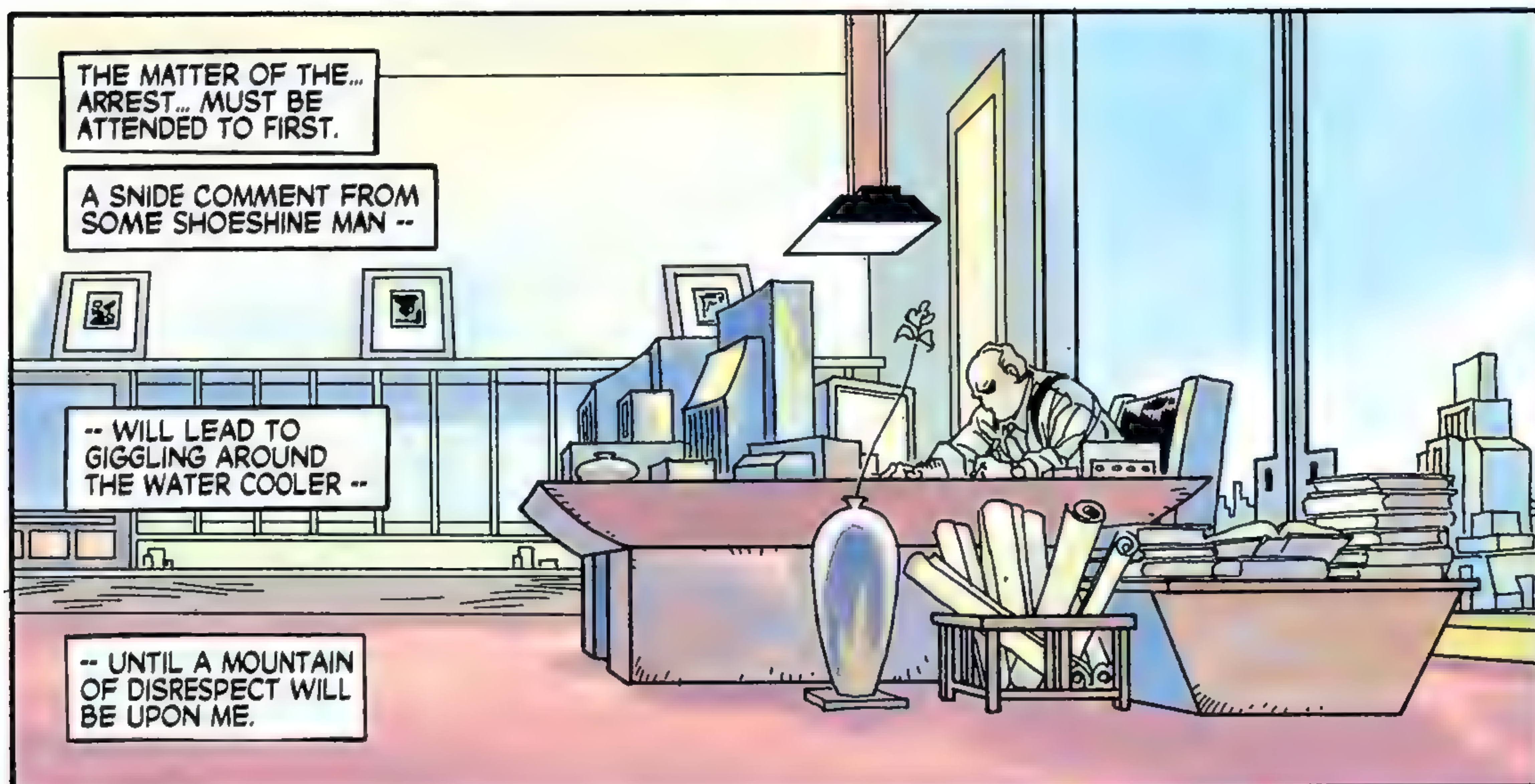
NOTHING
TO ALARM YOU,
SIR.
JUST
SEEING THAT
YOU GET SAFELY
HOME...

...AND
YOU MIGHT
WANT TO STAY
THERE.





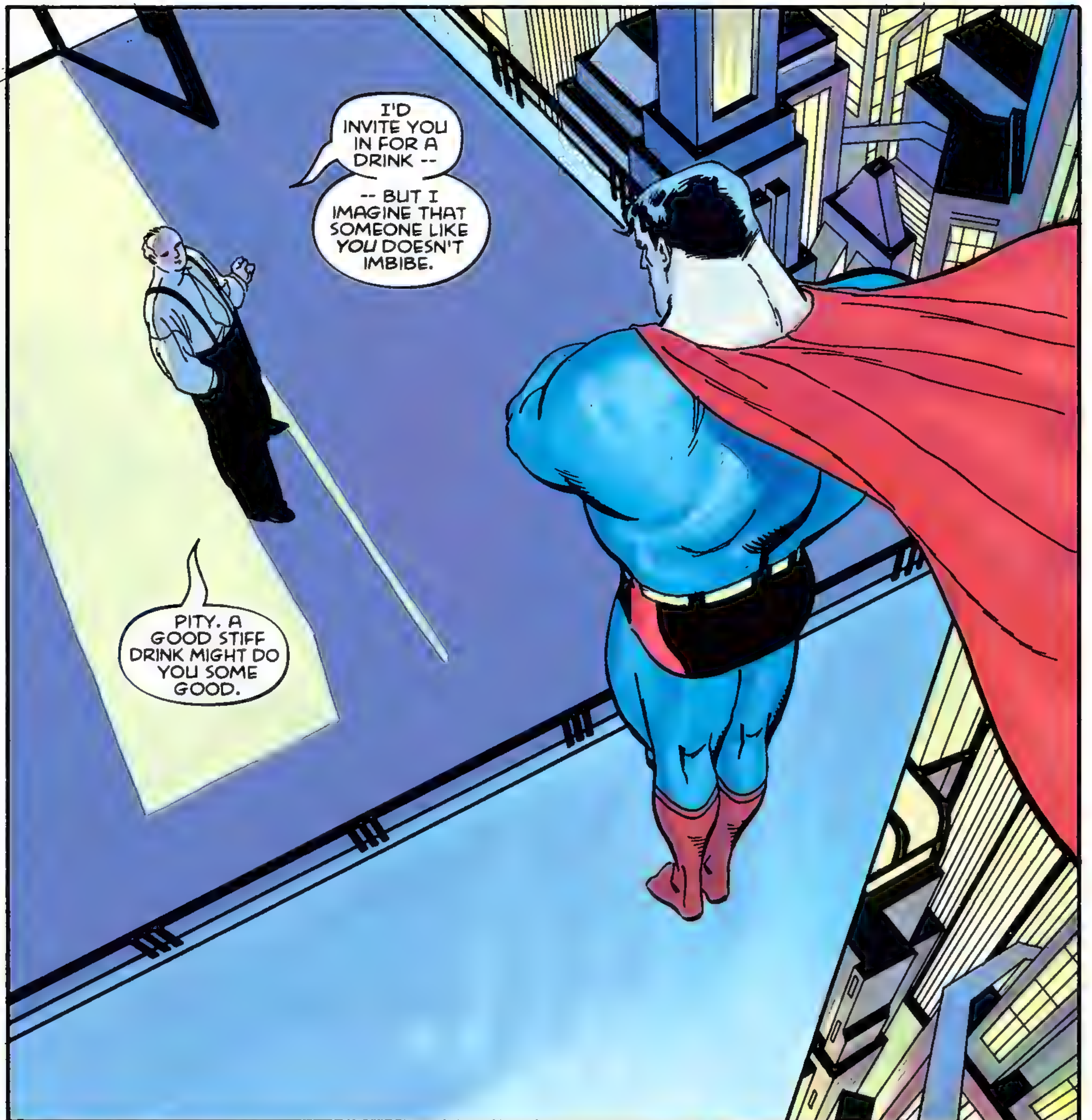






LEAVING ONLY
MY...RIVAL.

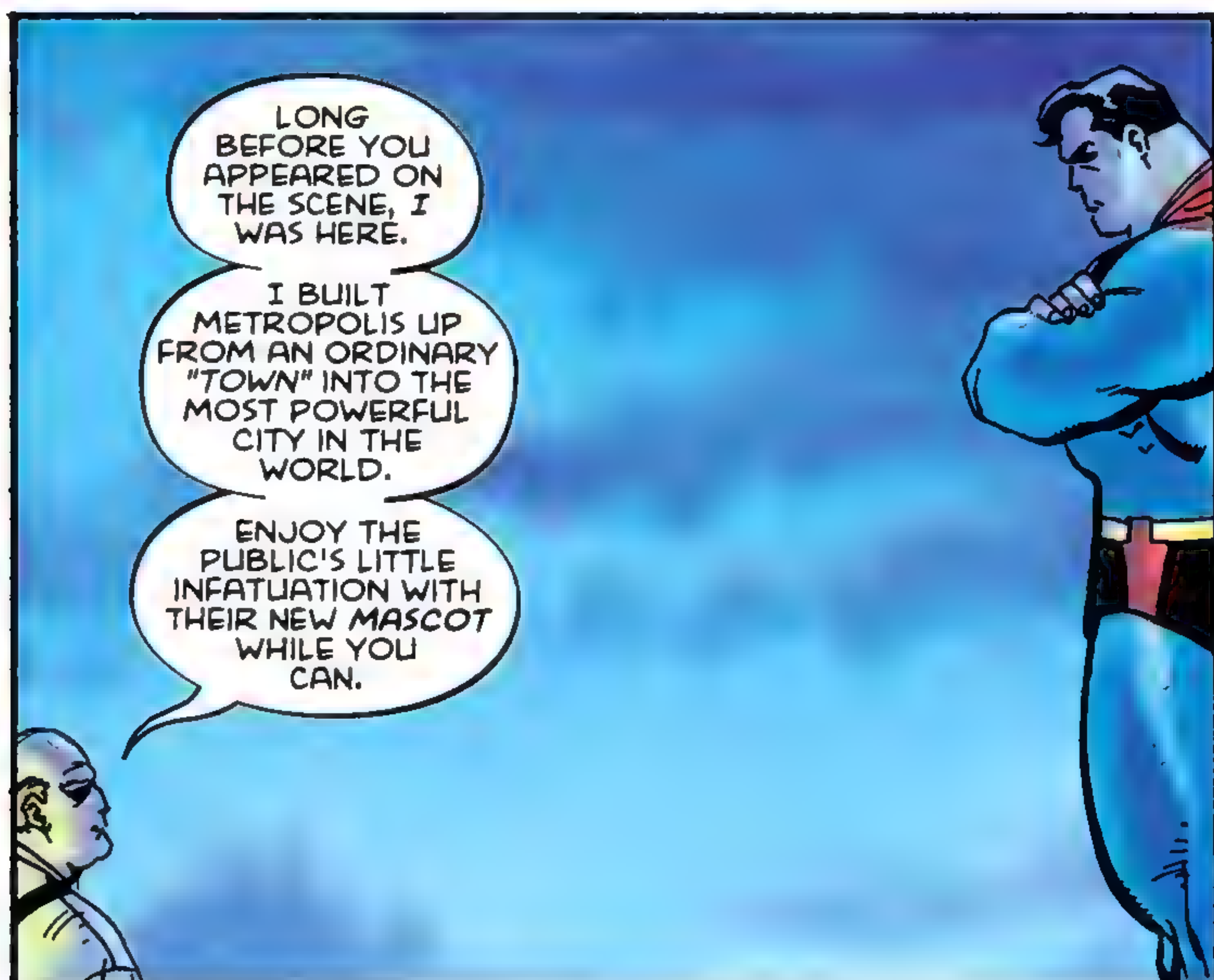
NOT MUCH OF A
CHALLENGE AT ALL.



I'D
INVITE YOU
IN FOR A
DRINK --

-- BUT I
IMAGINE THAT
SOMEONE LIKE
YOU DOESN'T
IMBIBE.

PITY. A
GOOD STIFF
DRINK MIGHT DO
YOU SOME
GOOD.



LONG
BEFORE YOU
APPEARED ON
THE SCENE, I
WAS HERE.

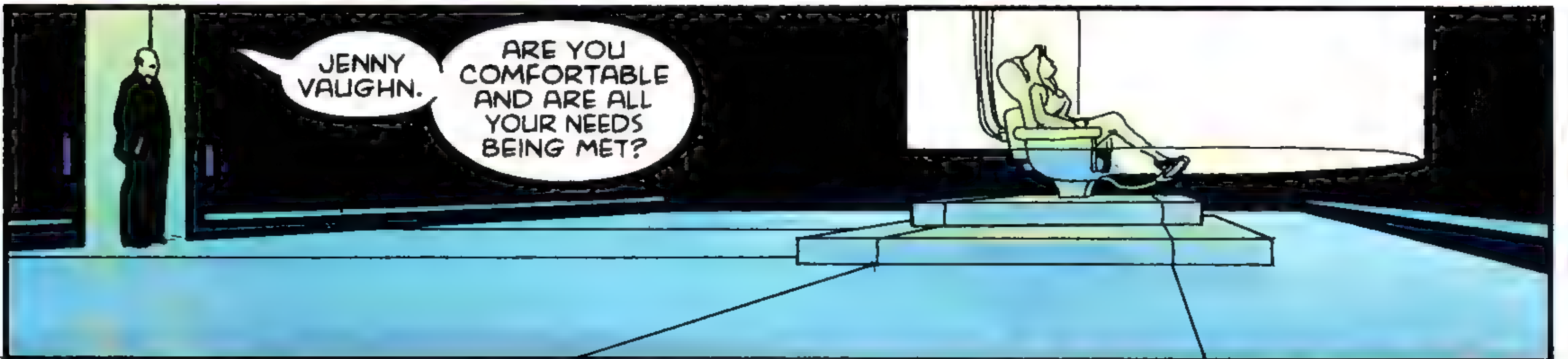
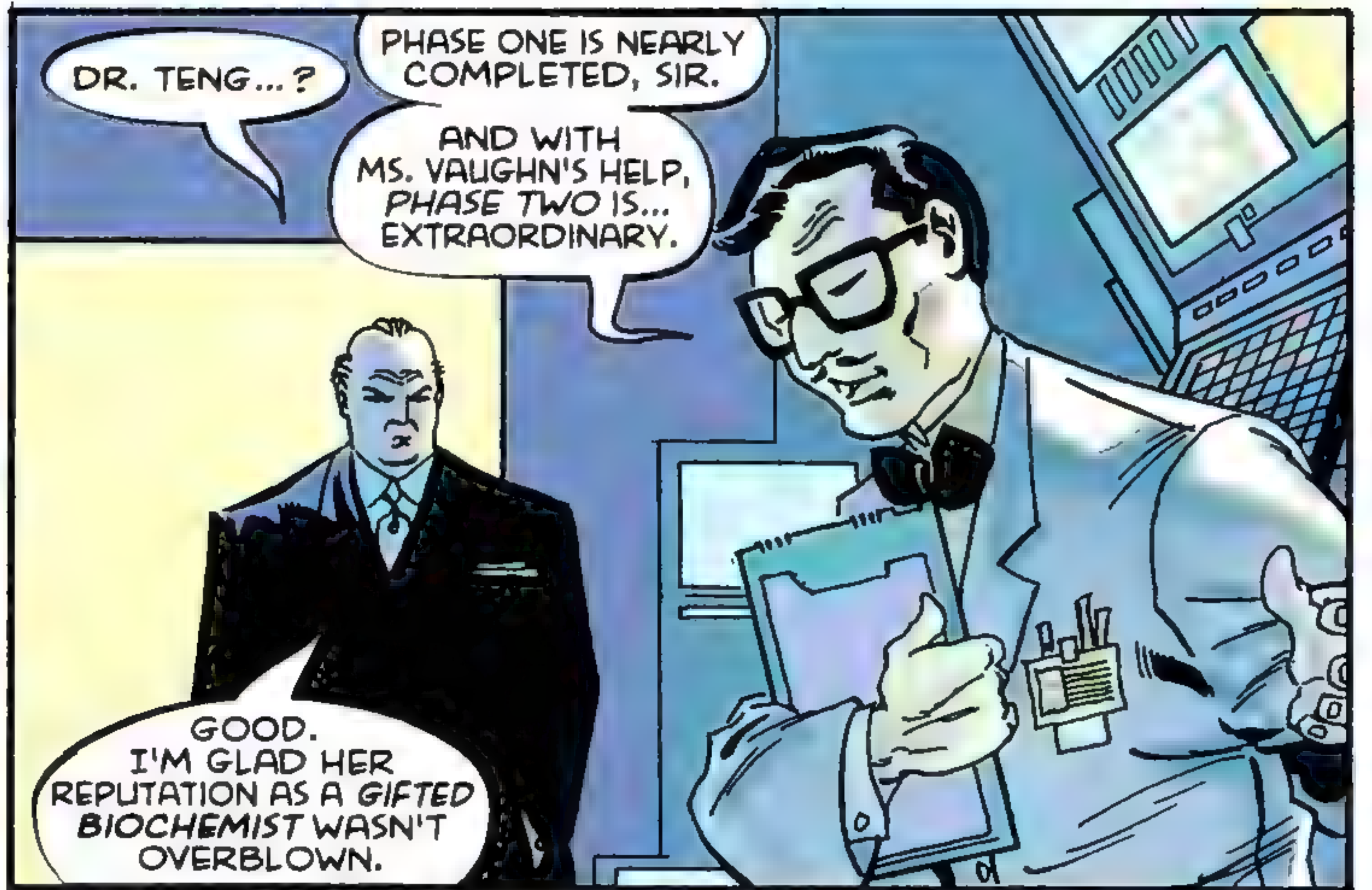
I BUILT
METROPOLIS UP
FROM AN ORDINARY
"TOWN" INTO THE
MOST POWERFUL
CITY IN THE
WORLD.

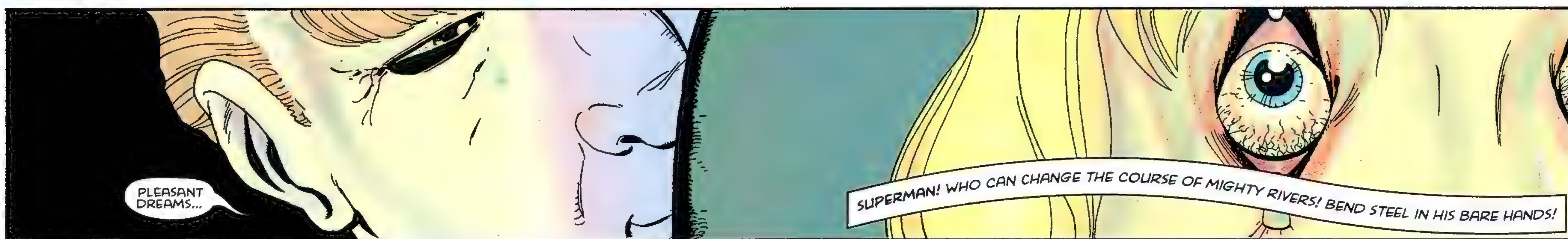
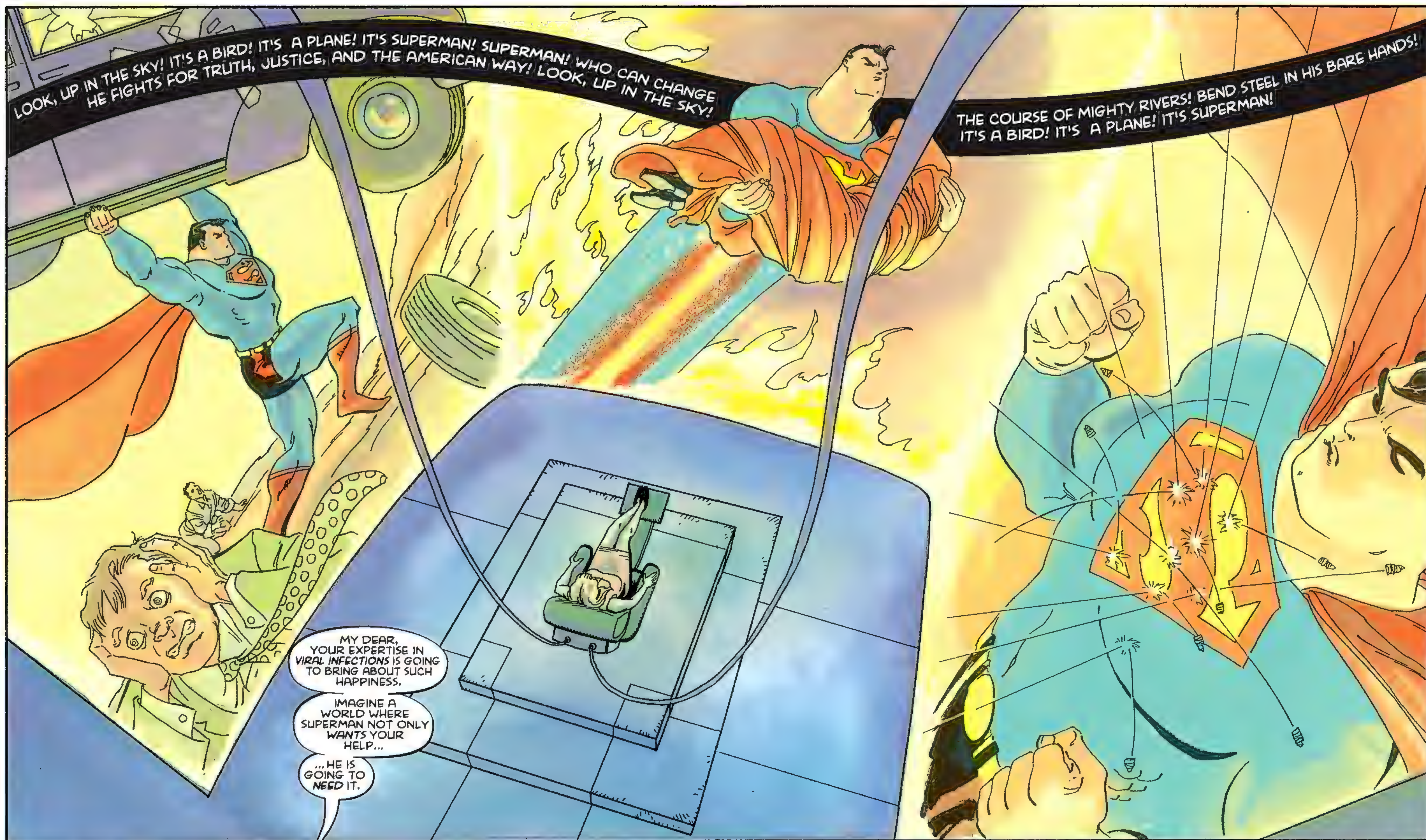
ENJOY THE
PUBLIC'S LITTLE
INFATUATION WITH
THEIR NEW MASCOT
WHILE YOU
CAN.



FAME IS
FLEETING...

...BUT
LEX LUTHOR
IS FOREVER.





LOOK, UP IN THE SKY! IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE! IT'S SUPERMAN! SUPERMAN! WHO CAN CHANGE HE FIGHTS FOR TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND THE AMERICAN WAY! LOOK, UP IN THE SKY!

THE COURSE OF MIGHTY RIVERS! BEND STEEL IN HIS BARE HANDS! IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE! IT'S SUPERMAN!

MY DEAR, YOUR EXPERTISE IN VIRAL INFECTIONS IS GOING TO BRING ABOUT SUCH HAPPINESS.

IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE SUPERMAN NOT ONLY WANTS YOUR HELP...

...HE IS GOING TO NEED IT.

PLEASANT DREAMS...

SUPERMAN! WHO CAN CHANGE THE COURSE OF MIGHTY RIVERS! BEND STEEL IN HIS BARE HANDS!



Every year, we're given the opportunity to take a moment to reflect on heroes that have come before us and made the ultimate sacrifice.

DON'T WORRY, FOLKS. I HAVE YOU.

And while the efforts of those men and women will never be forgotten, I always remember my first Memorial Day in Metropolis.

MEMORIAL DAY

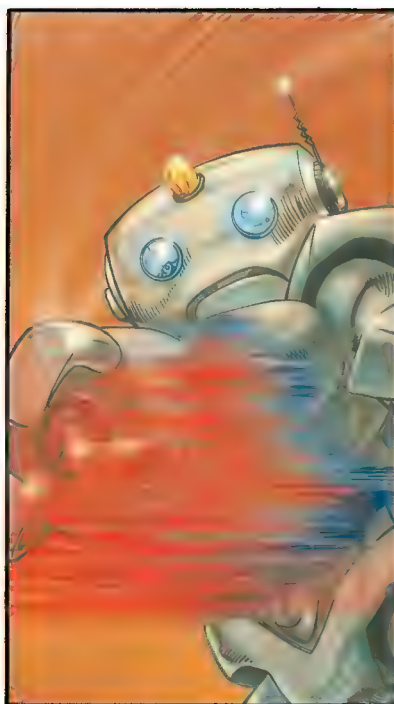
Writer: Vito Delsante • Artist: Julian Lopez • Inker: Bit

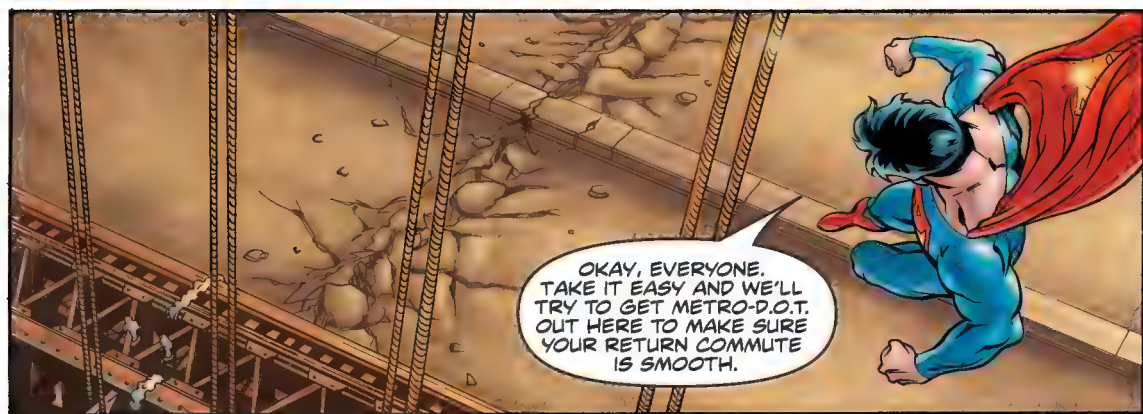
Colorist: Marta Martinez • Letterer: Comicraft

Assistant Editor: Harvey Richards, with hugs & kisses from Tom Palmer, Jr

Editor: Michael Siglain, with love from Matt Ideison

Cover by Alex Ross
Superman created by
Jerry Siegel &
Joe Shuster







... You'll find the same thing.

GOTHAM CITY.

THIS IS MORLOCK-ONE TO ALPHA TEAM.

ALPHA TEAM, COME IN.

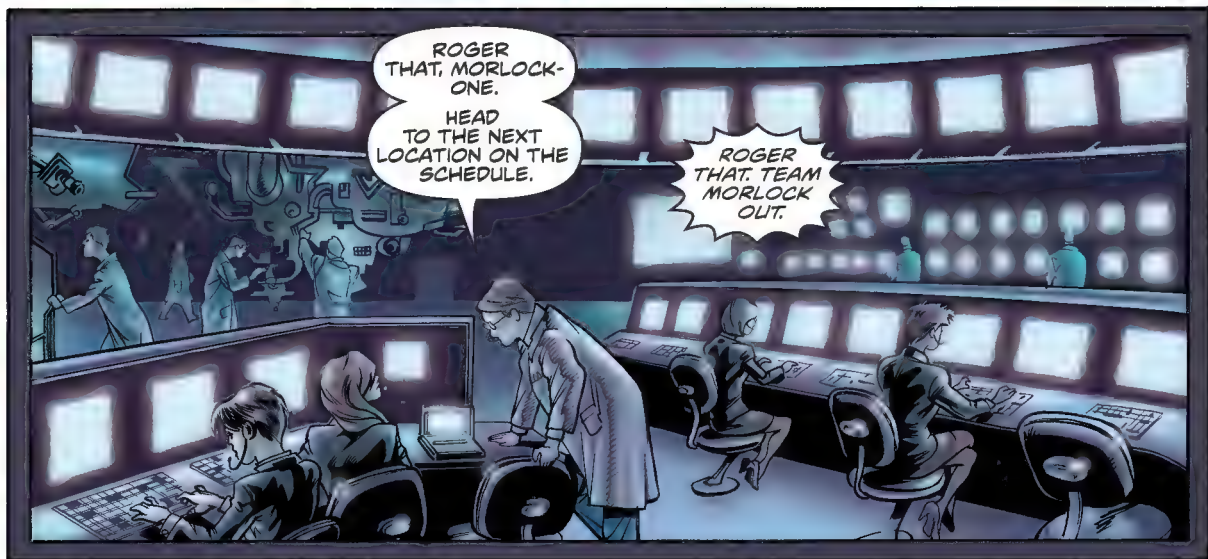


GO AHEAD, MORLOCK-ONE.

WE HAVE COMPLETED A SWEEP OF THE ENTIRE GOTHAM HAS TURNED UP SEWER SYSTEM.

SEARCH NEGATIVE.

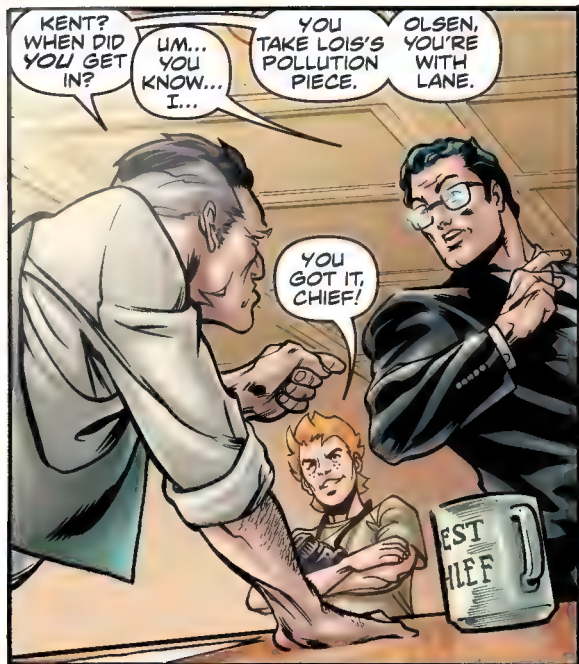
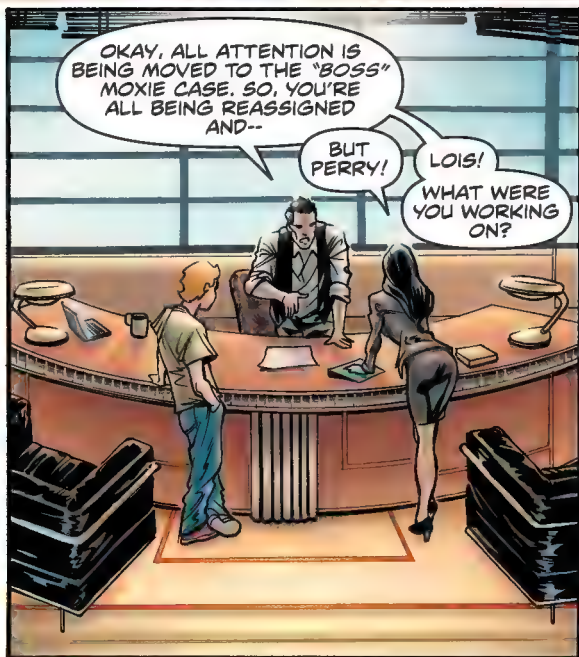
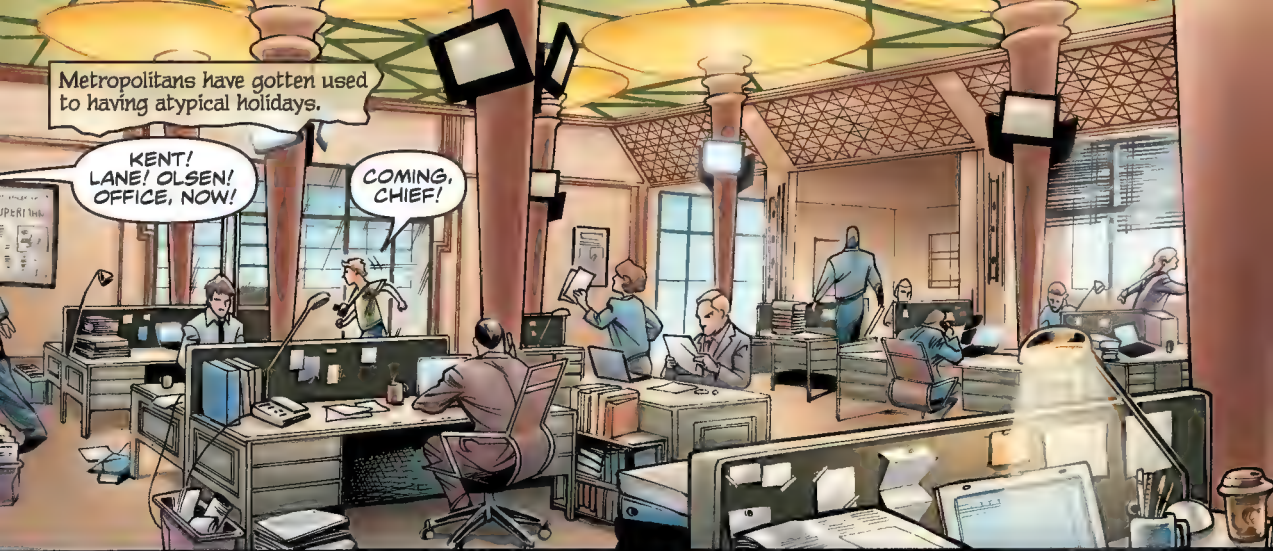
NO SIGN OF GOLD.

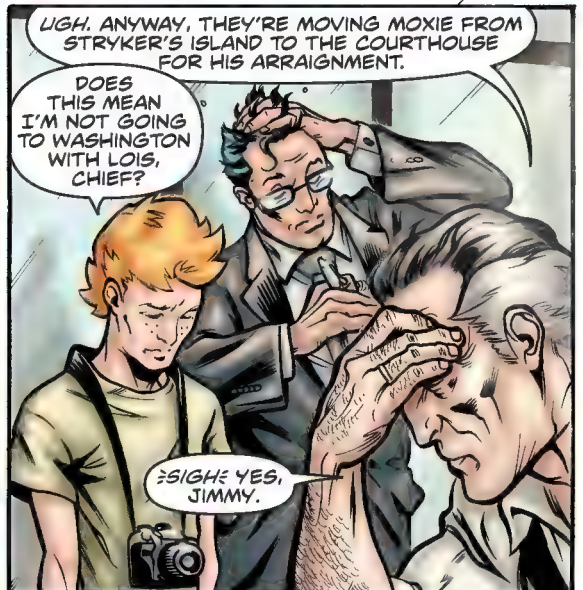


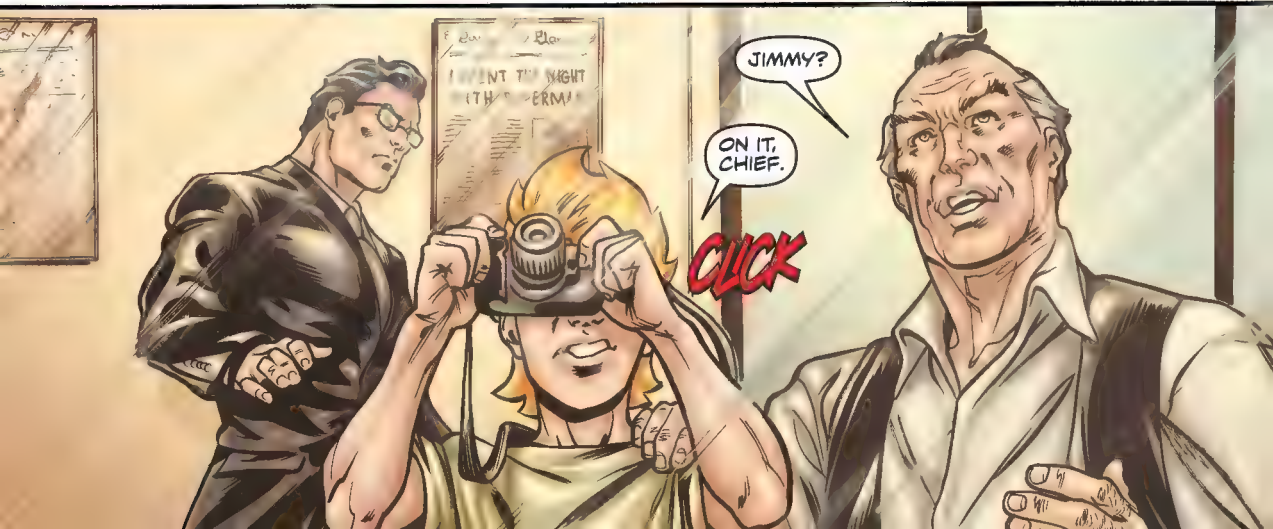
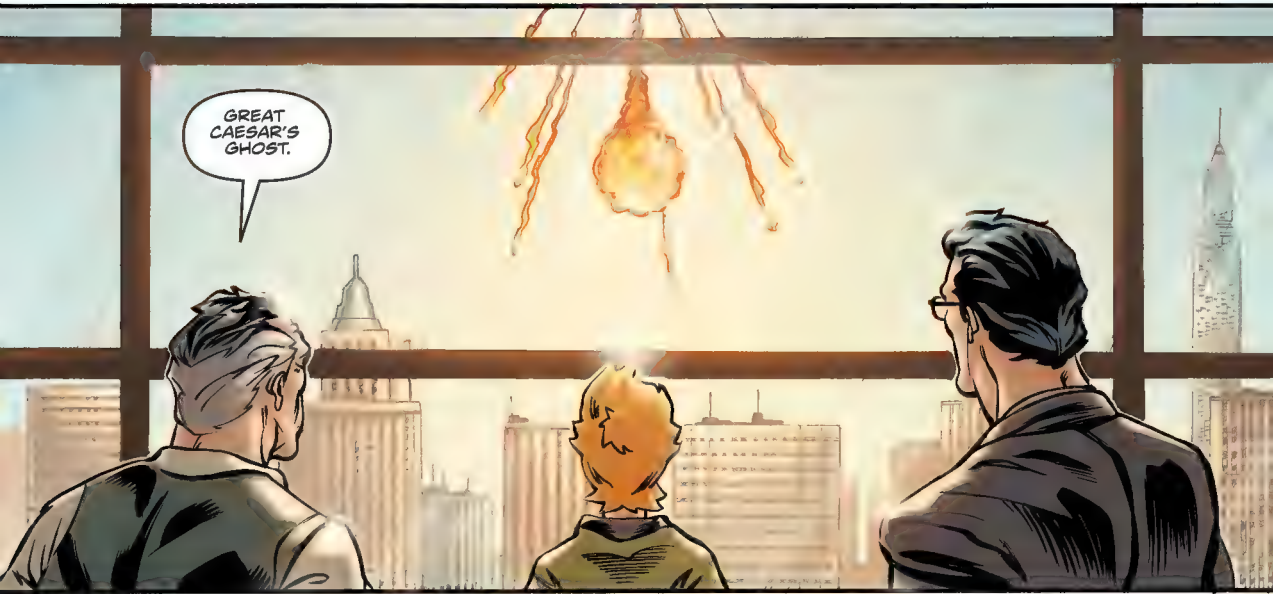
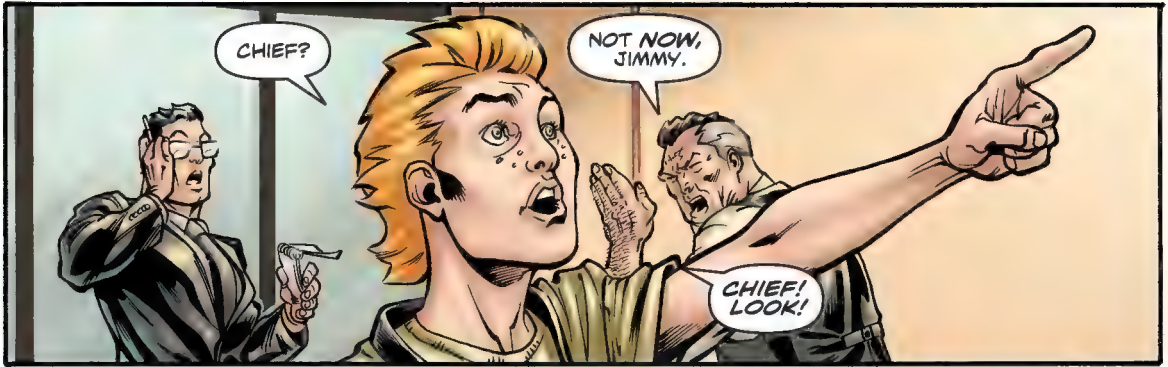
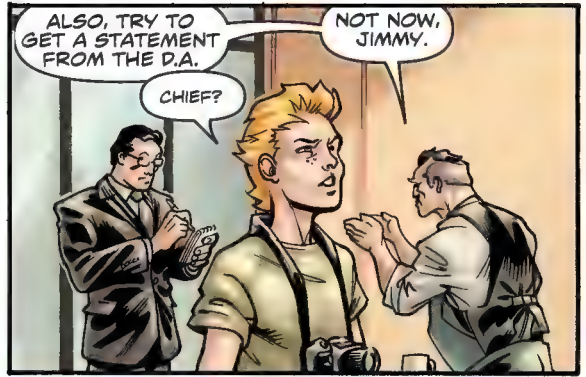
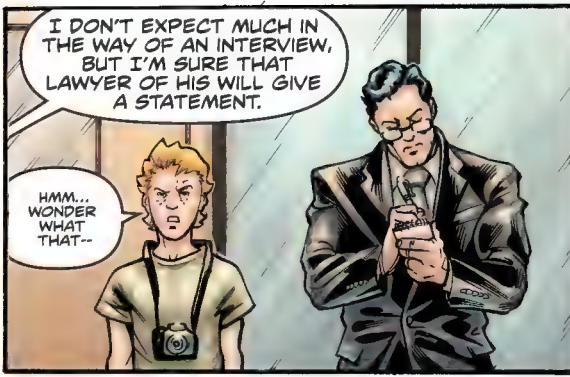
ROGER THAT, MORLOCK-ONE.

HEAD TO THE NEXT LOCATION ON THE SCHEDULE.

ROGER THAT, TEAM MORLOCK OUT.









Back then, giant robots and meteors were not were not what folks were used to seeing on their way to the beach.

The tragedy was that there might be more fallen heroes to remember that Monday.



Just not the one that they had come to expect.

IS THAT...?

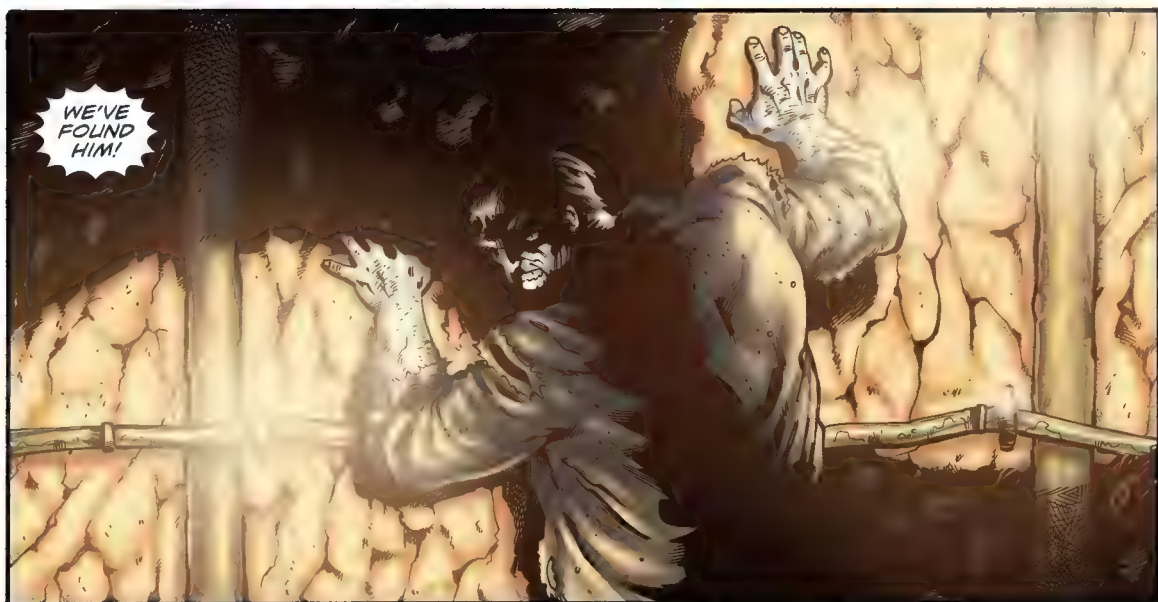
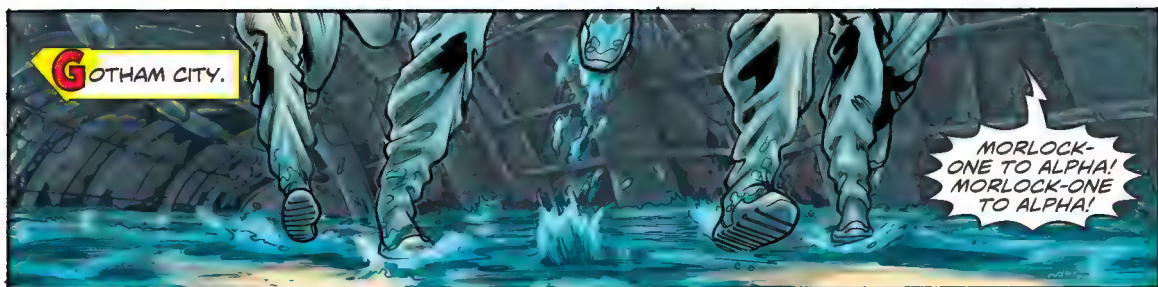


It's

GREEN LANTERN

As a World War II veteran,
it was almost fitting that
HE should save the day.

J. Jones
1/04
35r





AND THEN YOU...
DISBANDED?

RIGHT.
WE WERE ASKED TO
UNMASK BY THE HOUSE
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES
COMMITTEE. WE REFUSED,
SO WE STEPPED
DOWN.

AND YOU
STOPPED FIGHTING
CRIME?

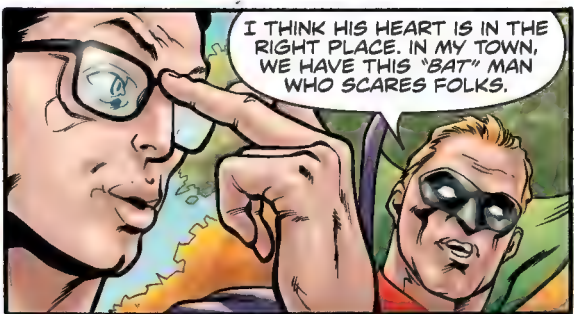
NO, NOT
REALLY.



BUT LATELY,
WE HAVEN'T HAD
TO JUMP INTO
THE FRAY SO
QUICKLY.

THAT LEADS
ME TO MY NEXT
QUESTION...

WHAT DO
YOU THINK ABOUT
SUPERMAN?



I THINK HIS HEART IS IN THE
RIGHT PLACE. IN MY TOWN,
WE HAVE THIS "BAT" MAN
WHO SCARES FOLKS.



SUPERMAN
CATCHES FALLING
PLANES WITH HIS
BARE HANDS.

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

YOU SEE HIM
EVERY DAY. YOU
KNOW HIM BETTER
THAN MOST, I'M
SURE.

ME? WELL,
I'M JUST, YOU
KNOW...

...LOIS LANE
IS THE ONE WHO
USUALLY GETS THE
EXCLUSIVES...



AIEEE!

WHAT
THE?



RUN!

RUN
FOR YOUR
LIFE!

MOVE!

GET
OUTTA MY
WAY!

SOMBODY
HELP!

THERE'S
A THING IN
THE PARK!

MONSTER!



WHOA...!

EVERYONE, PLEASE STAY CALM. YOU'RE GOING TO HURT EACH OTHER!

Even in the face of a possible disaster, Green Lantern was dedicated to keeping them, all of us, safe.



WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE TROUBLE?

A Z-Z-ZOMBIE! ZOMBIE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "ZOMBIE"?



MAN...WHITE SKIN AND HAIR! CAME OUT OF THE GATOR PIT AT THE ZOO!

GRUNDY.



And once the threat was assessed...

MR. KENT, IF YOU COULD LEAD THESE FOLKS TO SAFETY, I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS.

... he jumped right in.



KENT?

When my father was teaching me about responsibility, he always mentioned Green Lantern.

He'd always tell me that GL was an ordinary man given an incredible gift.

"Regardless of whether you find one, or are born with one, you have an obligation to help those around you."

"That," he said, "is what not only makes a hero a hero, but makes a man a man."

THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR

SUPERMAN





The gift, he'd say,
wasn't in his powers...

LANTERN.
ARE YOU
OKAY?

UHHH...



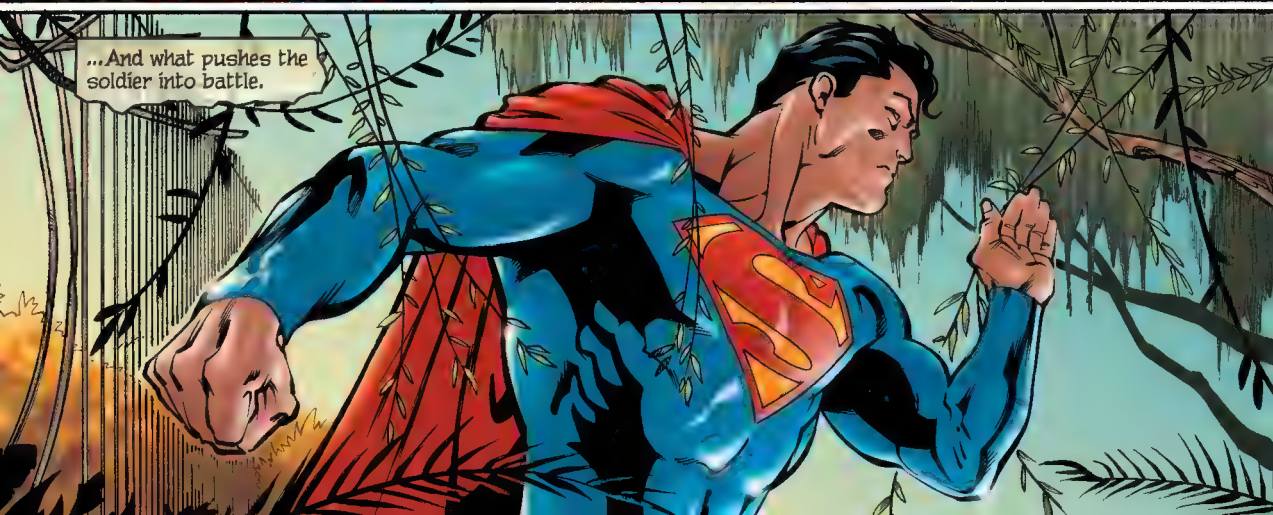
...but in his compassion
for his fellow man.

HANG ON.
I'LL HANDLE THIS
MONSTER.

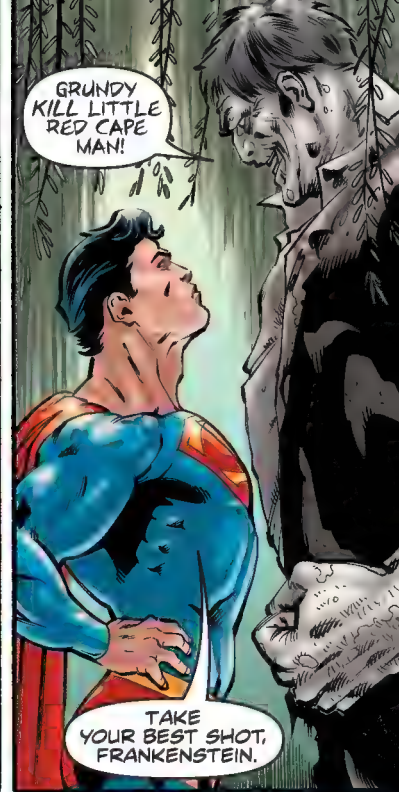


It's what compels
a firefighter to run
into an inferno...

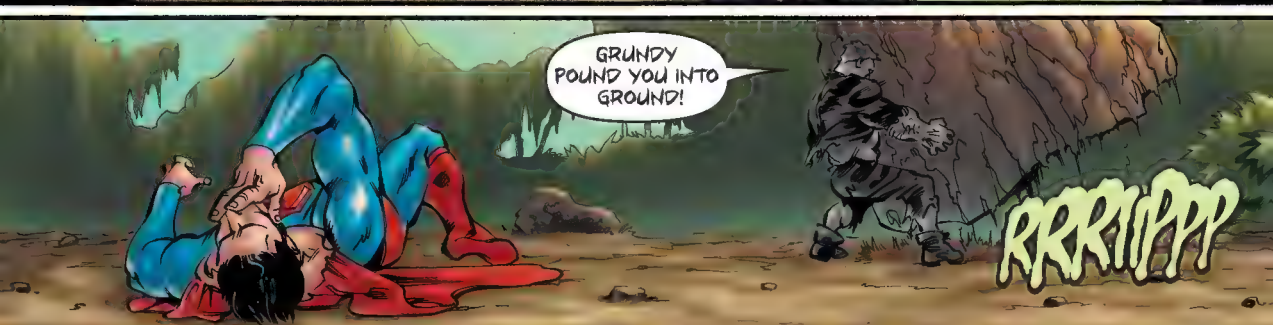
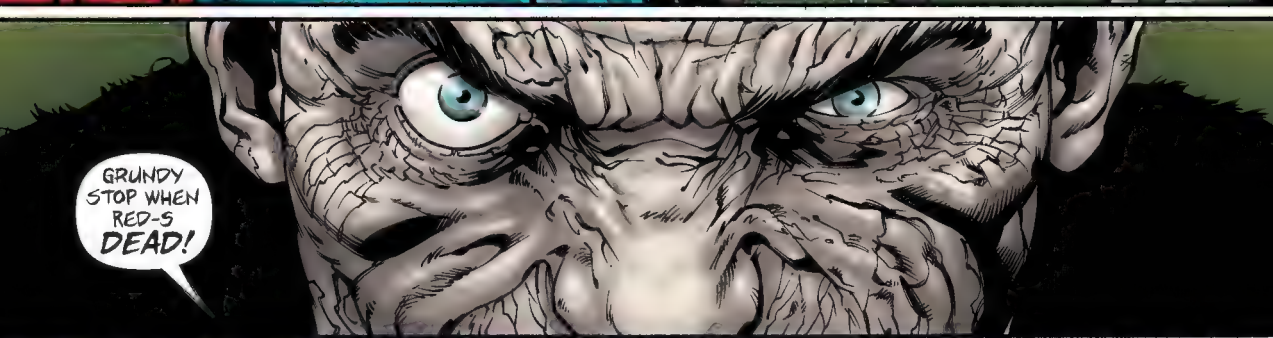
HEH
HEH HEH



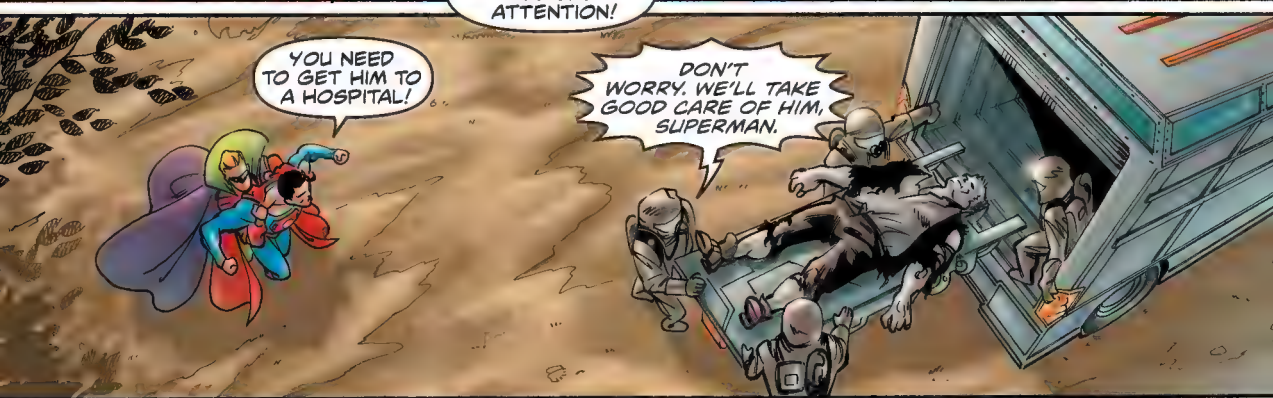
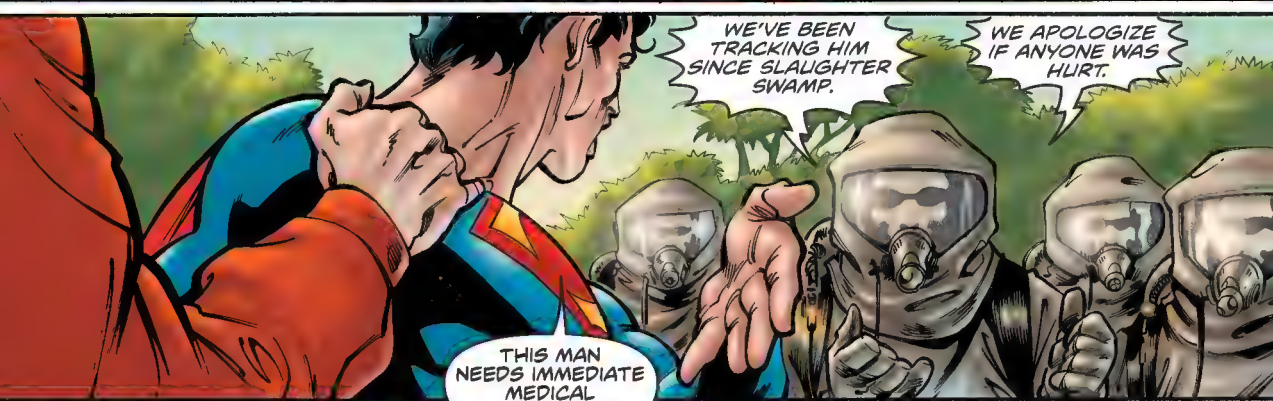
...And what pushes the
soldier into battle.

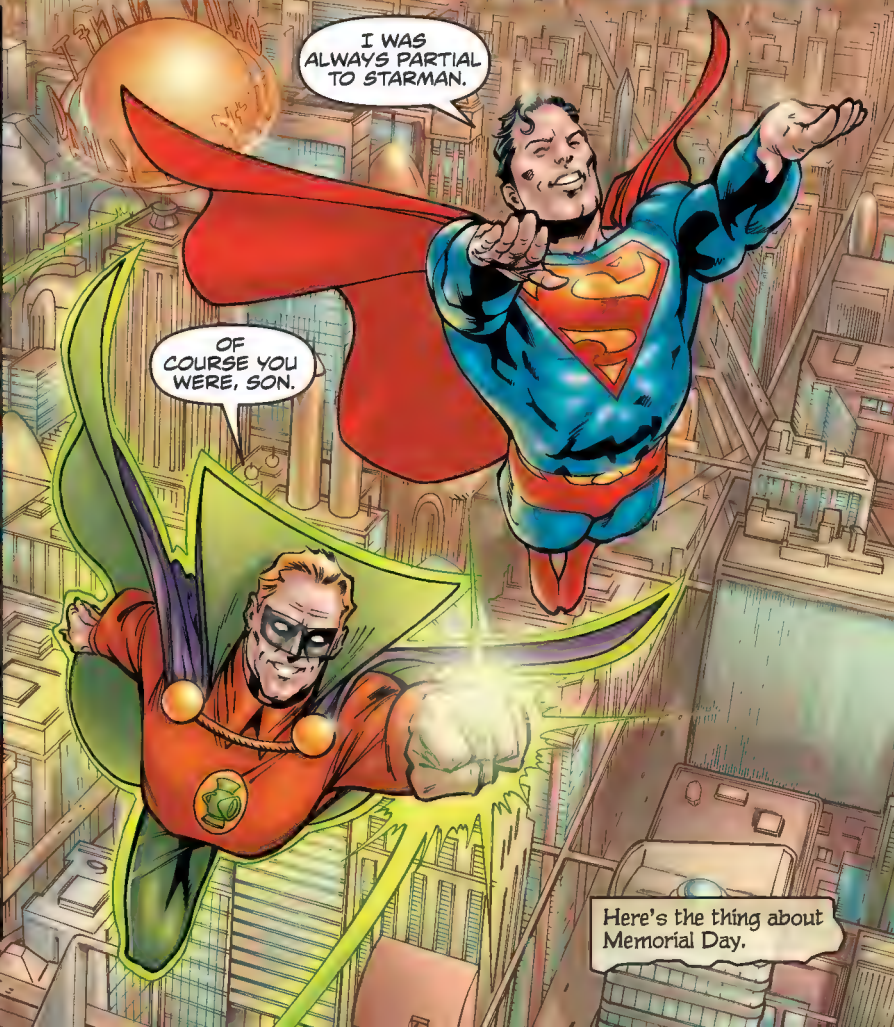
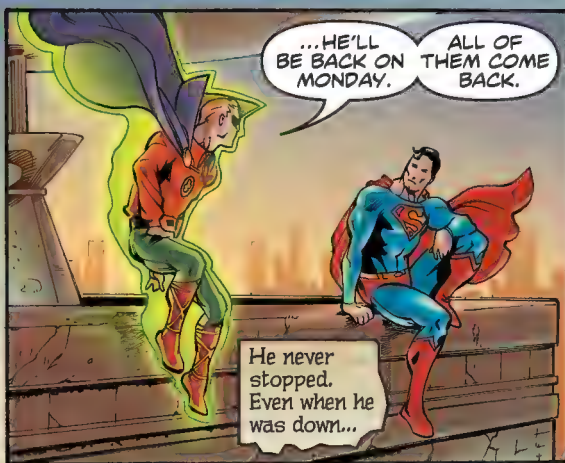












Heroes come in all shapes and sizes. They can wear badges or uniforms or even capes.

But their sacrifice remains the same.

ALPHA,
YOU WANTED
TO SEE ME?

YES,
MORLOCK-ONE.
WAS THE CARGO
RETURNED?

YES,
SIR.

AND DID YOU OBTAIN
THE **BLOOD AND SKIN**
SAMPLES?

YES, SIR, BUT
I'M A LITTLE CONFUSED.
WHY DID WE RELEASE
THE MONSTER WITHIN
THE CITY?

WHY?

If we're to defend life, liberty
and the pursuit of happiness...

CHANCES MUST
BE TAKEN. LIVES, IF
NECESSARY, NEED TO
BE SACRIFICED.

SUPERMAN
MUST BE
STOPPED.

YOU MUST
UNDERSTAND, DR. TENG.
WE, THE ENTIRE HUMAN
RACE, ARE AT WAR.

WAR, MR.
LUTHOR?

... then we need to look back at
the battles fought before us and
learn from them. We need to
honor those who came before us.

THAT'S
CORRECT.

AND
WE MUST USE
UNCONVENTIONAL
MEANS IF WE
ARE TO WIN.

Because the threats to freedom
will only get worse. Bigger. Badder.

MAKE
NO MISTAKE,
DR. TENG...

...IT'S GOING TO
TAKE SOMETHING
A LITTLE MORE
BIZARRE TO KILL
SUPERMAN.

But thankfully, heroes
will always stand for
truth, justice and the
American way.

THE END



Superman Post-Crisis Chronology

Volume 004 Enemy Mine

"One Night In Gotham City...", first appeared in The Man of Steel issue #3, released August 7, 1986

John Byrne (writer), John Byrne (penciller), Dick Giordano (inker)

Excerpt from "Hero", first appeared in Superman: The Man of Steel Annual issue #04, released April, 1995

Louise Jones Simonson (writer), John Paul Leon (penciller), Dennis Janke (inker)

"Summer", first appeared in Superman: For All Seasons issue #2, released August, 1998

Jeph Loeb (writer), Tim Sale (penciller), Tim Sale (inker)

"Enemy Mine...", first appeared in The Man of Steel issue #4, released August 21, 1986

John Byrne (writer), John Byrne (penciller), Dick Giordano (inker)

Excerpt from "Fall", first appeared in Superman: For All Seasons issue #03, released September, 1998

Jeph Loeb (writer), Tim Sale (penciller), Tim Sale (inker)

"Memorial Day", first appeared in Superman issue #676, released May 14, 2008

Vito Delsante (writer), Alex Ross (penciller), Julian Lopez (penciller), Alex Ross (inker), Bit (inker), Julian Lopez (inker)



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BOOK TWO • SUMMER



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LEX LUTHOR STRIKES!

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BIT**